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"C O L L E G E C H U M S."

A DRAMA IN FOUR ACTS,

188
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BY

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"COLLEGE CHUMS."

A Comedy in Four Acts, by Miron Leffingwell.

CAST.

John Hammond----------Yale '07. Just an ordinary fellow with red blood in his veins.

Arthur Begley----------His chum. Some blue blood in his.

Christopher Kurtz----------Of the Sheffield ScientificSchool, who is working his way.

Prof. Dabney----------S.T.D.

A Gastleigh Frost----------Q "Jitney" tragedian. "Superfluous lags the veteran on the stage"

Brigham Haywood----------An Idaho Sheriff.

Nelly Dabney----------The Professor's Daughter.

Pauline Metzgar----------Who tends the cigar counter.

Miss Hogg----------Who keeps boarders.

S Y N O P S I S

Act 1:- New Haven. Garden at Miss Hogg's.

Act 2:- New Haven. Sitting room at Miss Hogg's.

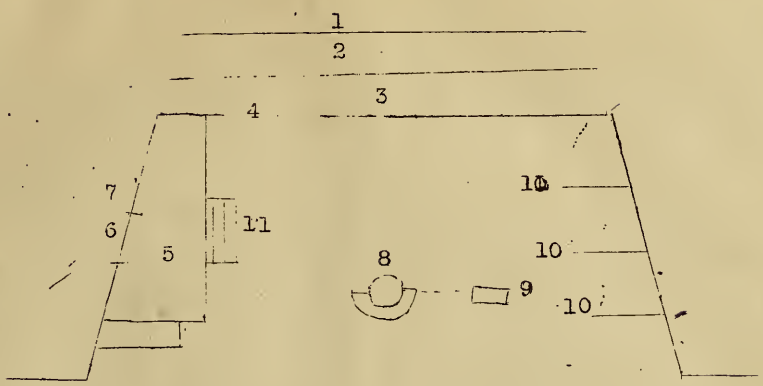
Act 3:- The Cour d'Alene country. Idaho . Office of the "Purple Monkey" mine.

Act 4-E The Dabney Mansion. Nelly's Idaho Home.

---oooOOOOOOOooo---

Act 1.

SCENE:--Garden at Miss Hogg's Boarding House.



E X P L A N A T I O N

1- Street drop for backing.

2- Cut wood and foliage.

3- Low stone fence about 5 feet in front of Cut Drop.

4- Gate.

5- Porch overgrown with vines.

6- Door.

7- Large set house with porch and steps leading to door.

8- A large set tree with seat surrounding it down L. of C. strongly braced.

9- Hammock hung from tree to wing L.

10- Wings.

11- Steps.

Ground cloth down, grass mats. The stone fence is overgrown with shubbery and bushes. Pots of plants scattered around. Garden bench down R. in front of house facing foots.

TIME:--Afternoon, early Spring.

---ooo0000000ooo---

Act 1.

SCENE:--New Haven. Garden at Miss Hoggs.

At rise:--Mr. Frost, a pālmy day "Legit" is discovered over in hammock L. with yellow play book. His silk hat with newspapers and manuscript rolls in it is on stage beside him. Frost is eccentric but not burlesqued.

Frost

(Reads.) "

"Out, out, brief candle!
Life's but a walking shadow; a poor player,
That struts and frets his hour upon the stage,
And then is heard no more, it is a tale,
Told by an idiot full of sound and fury,
Signifying nothing.

(Enter Pauline R.U.E. She is an attrative looking girl, but rather flashily dressed in this act as if trying to make a front on very little money. Christopher follows her. He wears dark ill-fitting clothes, but is neat. He is pale and agitated on his first entrance.

Chris

Pauline, won't you listen to me?

Pauline

I'm tired of listening. you always say the same thing.

Chris

But --

Pauline

"Won't you love me." Why don't you love me?" Who do you love if you don't love me?" What is there about you that a girl like myself should pine away for anyway? Tell me that.

Chris

(Turns away.) I - I don't know.

Pauline

No more do I. We agree in that. You haven't any money.

Chris

No.

Pauline

You're not goodlooking.

Chris

Never claimed to be.

Pauline

You have brains - some brains.

Chris

Thanks.

Pauline

Of a certain kind. Not the kind I care for though.

Chris

I'm sorry for that.

Pauline

It doesn't matter. I don't know a fellow who has as little to back him up as you. You have one quality though, which awes me, and fills me with wonder?

Chris

And that is ---

Your collossal nerve. Pauline

Chris

Pauline, I adore you. I would die for you.

Pauline

That's very kind of you, but there are too many dead ones around now. I'm more interested in the live ones.

Chris

John Hammond for example.

Pauline

John Hammond! (Laughs.) Well, ain't you clever guessing names? Chris Kurtz, you're a mind reader. You knew I was thinking of John Hammond! John! I always think of him as Jack though. (Sighs.) Jack! Ah, there is a man.

Frost

(Reads from another play book.)

"His life was gentle, and the elements so
Mixed in him, that nature might stand up to all
The world and say, "This was a man."

Chris

(Surlily.) Say, what's the matter with you?

Frost

(Waves him back loftily.) Let me alone. I am but talking with myself.

Pauline

(Takes Chris by the arm.) You'd better keep away from that old lobster. He's a "Bug house."

Chris

I wish you would stop that slang. It doesn't become you at all.

Pauline

Don't you like it?

Chris

No. I do not.

Pauline

Then Chris, I'll stop it. I didn't know that you cared. Working behind the cigar counter, I hear all sorts of expressions and seem to enjoy it, but you are so serious. Chris, you're not like the others. (Lays her hand on his during speech, turns away at end.)

Chris

(Restraining her.) Pauline, I'm serious with you. You've wound yourself about my heart until I haven't a thought in the world but you. When I try to study, I see your image pictured on every page. The letters all seem to spell your name.

Pauline

Truly?

Chris

Surely.

Pauline

Then you really do love me?

Chris

I worship, I adore you.

Pauline

And you want to elevate me - to raise me to your level - to be refined - and all the rest of it? No slang - but dainty and - and fresh - eh?

Chris

Yes, tes.

Pauline

Say Chris, where in Hades, did you get that "Kelly." It's Kateesh. You ought to "tie a can" to it and to those syncopations" too. Get a gait on. Have some class, or you won't have a "look in" with me.

Chris

(Reproachfully.) Oh Pauline.

Pauline

Oh piffle, paffle, on your way. Beat it, beat it and let me alon

Miss Hogg

(Outside in house R. calls.) Christopher! Christopher! (Enters on porch.) Oh, there you are. I might remind you that there are duties to preform inside, and you might be more profitably employed than lally gagging out here.

Pauline

That's just what I've been telling him, Miss Hogg.

Miss Hogg

(Coldly.) I'm telling him now and at the same time, I'll tell you something. I'd be just as well pleased if you - you Metzger person wouldn't come around here wearing a sinful "hat" and flirting with my boaders. No matter if they is students that pay, of students that don't pay, but work out their keeps as Christopher Kurtz here is supposed to but ain't a doin' --

Pauline

I don't want to come near your hash foundry except when I have to.

Miss Hogg

Hash foundry? Think of it - to call my hotel a hash foundry and I advertise home comforts and all the delicatessen of the the season. Are you aware I roast my own coffee--

Pauline

You ought to roast it. If it's as bad as I hear it is it's like your nerve to call it coffee.

Miss Hogg

Bold, brazen creature. Get off my land. Your presence blights the very flowers in my garding--

Pauline

(Looks around.) That ain't so much.

Miss Hogg

Their fragrant perfume is lizened.

Pauline

No wonder with the smell of cornbeef and cabbage from your joint. Don't you give the students anything else?

Miss Hogg

Put her out, Christopher, put her out!

Pauline

He "dassent" and if you try it, I'll put a puncture in your tire. I'm here on business.

Miss Hogg

Business! What business?

Pauline

None of your business. I want to see Jack Hammond.

Miss Hogg

"Jack# - "Jack" - Mr. Hammond is not at home.

Pauline

How about "Arty Begley."

Miss Hogg

Mr . Arthur Begley is not at home either.

Pauline

Either. Well, wouldn't that inebriate you? I'll talk to King Lear here. (Goes over to Frost.) Say! (Shakes his shoulders)

Frost

Eh? (Starts up.)

Pauline

Move over Romeo. Make room for me. (Frost does so and moves over to L. of hammock. Pauline plums herself down on his R. hand.) Claude Eclair, wilt thou do something for me?

Pauline

Thanks, and the next time you act in New Haven, I'll come and see you.

Frost

Thank you, but I am done with New Haven. I've cut it out off my itinerary. I am a big favorite in "South Norwalk." Come and see me there.

Pauline

I was in front here. They night you played behind the net.

Frost

I always play behind a net.

Pauline

The play was "Virginius". I enjoyed it myself immensely.

Frost

I am glad to hear it.

Pauline

I never laughed so much in my life.

Frost

Yes "Virginius" is a rollicking , gingery, frace comedy--

Pauline

Oh, the play wasn't so much. I like "Parted and not Wedded" better. But you were as funny, as funny could be.

Frost

Yes, I do get a good many laughs in "Virginius." I am a screaming hit, especially here. Your audiences! Peevish school boys, malignant shallow apes, muddy gated knaves, reek of the rotten fens. They call themselves students. They are sneering diobolical barbarians! I loathe them. (Getting more excited.) They have curdled the milk of human kindness. I despise their applause! I give them back scorn for scorn, hate for hate! (Rises and strides around, shouting. The others dodge him.) Uncompromising hate! Eternal as infinity! Black as the lowest depths of Hell! Such is the hate that gnaws me, gnaws me, gnaws me. (Grabs Pauline by the wrist suddenly and.) Say sister, you haven't got a stamp about you, have you?

Pauline

(Alarmed at Frost's manner.) No - no I ain't got nothing. What do you want it for?

Frost

I have just this moment decided to go into vaudeville. I wabt to book my time. I'll take you with me. You shall support me - -

Pauline

Nothing doing. It's all I can do to support myself.

Frost

I will do Samson and Delilah in tabloid form. I want a Deliah. A Sedutive - vampiris h siren - a devil in petticoats. Where shall I find one?

Pauline

Try your landlady there, Miss Hoggs?

Miss Hoggs

The idea! TO chris.) I could have arrest her for that.

Pauline

Hello. Why here comes Jack Hammond now. I'll give him the cigars myself. (Grabs package away from Frost , runs up to C. exits R.U.E.)

Miss Hoggs

The forward creature. She'd take any excuse to come here and carry on with my boarders. I'd think Mr. Hammond would have

more sense than to look at her, and then --Mr. Begley shakin' dice with her, she scandalizes the community.

Frost

(Half to himself.) I'll do it! I'll do it! I'll take the act down to Bridgeport and try it on the "Dog." Miss Hoggs?

Miss Hoggs

Mr. Frost!

Frost

A confidential word in your ear.

Miss Hoggs

Is it about your board bill? There's three weeks due now.

Frost

(Airily.) A trifle! Don't think of it. I assure you, I don't. This is a matter of importance.

Miss Hoggs

So is the bill. Three weeks at seven per, makes twenty one dollars, and I have to pay my rent on the first.

Frost

You have been in my thoughts much of late.

Miss Hoggs

And you have been in mine. Provisions is high.

Frost

You must feel you are following an unproftable game.

Miss Hoggs

I'd feel better if you were more prompt.

Frost

Did I ever tell you what my friend Belasco did for Mrs. Carter?

Miss Hoggs

No. Did she keep a boarding house?

Frost

He devolped her art by hauling her half way across the stage by the hair.

Miss Hoggs

Mercy!

Frost

I would do asmuch for you, if I thought I could make fifty thousand dollars a year off you. But soft (Looks at Chris) Menials mustnot overhear our "heart to heart" talk. Come, we will go into your parlor and "I will a tale unfold whose lightest word etc. etc." Sir Henry Irving once said to me at the "Haunch and Skewer." Gastleigh, me boy "Pipe his jags your valet. He's rubbering, Gastleigh, rubbering. Let us dissemble Top ? till we make our exit. So we'll dissemble -Hoggy - old girl, we'll dissemble. (Frost leads Miss Hogg off into house.) (John Hammond enters R.U.W. with Pauline. John is in boating fannels.)

John

Of course, it is is as you say , Pauline, I will accept Arty's present, but. --(Pauline indicates Chris apparently checking John from continuing.) Eh ? (Sees Chris.) Hello Chris,were you out to the trail races?

Chris

No. (Shortly.) I have no time for frivolous amusements. I'm at college for work - not nonsense!

John

Well, if you don't think pulling a boat is work, you ought to get out and try it. Don't be such a grouch, Chris. Here, have a cigar. (Starts to undo package.)

Chris

No thank you. I don't smoke cigars.

John

No?

Chris

No. I cannot afford them.

Pauline

A student lamp is more in Chris's way.

John

A student lamp?

Pauline

Yes, a cigarette.

John

Oh, I see.

Chris

I can't afford cigarettes, either.

John

Confound it Chris, you're getting worse and worse. You exult in your poverty and keep throwing it up to everyone as it because of it, you are somebody apart from your neighbors. You're not the only one, there are others who are poor. Don't think you are specually distinguished. I could tell things about myself if I wanted.

Chris

You don't wait on the table. You don't clean knives and wash dishes in Miss Hogg's kitchen. You're not called a Menial as I am just because I am trying to work my way through college.

John

I never called you a Menial Chris, and indeed I never heard anyone else call you that.

Chris

That "ham" tragedian Gastleigh Frist, call me one five minutes ago.

John

Oh well, he's not responsible. He's lived in an imaginary world so long, that he can't come down to earth. He carries the tinsel and painted canvas of stage lands into the most ordinary affairs of life. He can't separate one from the others. Think of what the poor old fellow's been through. The bad parts, he's had to study, they must hant him. "Robber thiefs, and bandit kings, bloody barons, and stand pat statesman." He's only a step removed from thelunatic who imagines he's Napoleon Bonaparte, or a poached egg. The only difference is - one is in a mad house, the other isn't.

MissHoggs

(In hours.) Christopher! Christopher!

Chris

Yes.

Miss Hogg

Come into the house immediately.

John

By the way, old man, drop this box into my roo, as you go in, won't you? (Gives Chris box. He takes it without a word and exits into house.)

Pauline

Don't you know what is the matter with him?

John

His liver is bad, I think.

Pauline

He's jealous.

John

Jealous of what - of whom?

Pauline

Of you and me.

John

I ~~xx~~don't understand.

Pauline

He's desperately in love with me.

John

Is he? Poor fellow! I didn't know things were as bad as that.

Pauline

And he thinks you are in love with me, too.

John

Where did he ever get that insane delusion. Did you set him right?

Pauline

No.

John

Why didn't you?

Pauline

It was too much fun.

John

But the fun is all on your side. Where do I come in?

Pauline

Oh, I don't care about that.

John

what a sweet girl you are.

Pauline

Besides, while he has his eye on you, he'll never think of Arty. I wouldn't like him to guess the truth about Arty and me, because - because -

John

Yes.

Pauline

Because Chris Kurtz is really a dangerous young man. He wouldn't hesitate to stick a knife into Arty in he caught him at night up a dark alley somewhere. I wouldn't like Arty to get hurt.

John

No more, should I. But from what you tell me about Chris's blood thirsty longings, I must say you are making it infernally pleasant for "Yours trult." I'd like awfully to serve Arty, because he's my chum, but that "Night and dark alley business" gets on my nerves. Couldn't you turn his suspicions on someone else. Gastleigh Frost for instance?

Pauline

what, that old fossil? Not on your life.

John

I appreciate the compliment you are paying me, but I think poor Chris had better be undeceived. Why do you taltalize the boy?

Pauline

Oh, just to get even.

John

Even?

Pauline

Yes. I have to take it out on someone.

John

Take what out?

Pauline

A grouch, I've got. You swell fellows think here in New Haven, that a girl who works as I do has no feelings. You flatter and

you jolly her, and she falls for your glad rags, your xomedy and your bluff. You don't mean anything serious. We're fair game with you college bous. We're your amusement for your idle hours. You go away and forget us. Oh, I'm wise, I know, I know. We ain't in your class, and you don't marry us and take us home to your famulies. You be ashamed. We can't get back to you fellows as we'd like to, so we are apt to pass it up to the home bous. The shoe clerk, the honest mechanic, the factory hand, the men we marry when we're lucky enough to get husbands, and so we put them on the griddle, and watch them squirm, and give them a taste of shell fire, because we can't hand it to you.

John

Pauline, I don't want to defend myself, and I know that we have some bla ckguards among college men, but they're not all alike. Pauline, you are a bright girl, you are an attractice girl, and --

Pauline

Don't hand me that.

John

My dear child, I am not handing you anything, except some good advice. You have philosophy mixed with your cusseddness. You say "You are wise" you know that fire burns. Why do you stick your rosy taper fingers into the flame? How long have you known Chris?

Pauline

Since childhood. My father and his came cross from the old country together.

John

And your father thinks well of him?

Pauline

Oh, yes. They are mixed up some way together, in some sort of a lodge of social politics or other. Dad says, that Chris is going to do big things in the world.

John

I hope he may. He is an earnest student. He's particularly distinguished in chemistry, I hear. You say he cares a great deal for you?

Pauline

(Simply.) Why of course, he does.

John

Well, why don't you care for him?

Pauline

I do a little - but - Oh, what's the use? I'll willing to be a sister to him, but there's Arthur - you see. You surely wouldn't compare Chris Kurtz with Arthur Begley, wouldn't you?

John

It wouldn't be fair for me to compare him with Arty Begley because Arty is my chum. A kind brother so to speak, I would be prejudiced. But you are not thinking seriouslu of Arthur, are you my child?

Pauline

Look here. Don't "child# me. That-Qfatherly" gag of yours don't go. (suddenly with temper) I see how it is. You'd like to queer me with him. You don't think I am good enough for your friend. You've got the prejudices of class, dad talks about. You're like the rest. (Bursts out crying.)

John

Pauline, Pauline, don't, don't! I beg--(Endeavors to take her hand. Chris enters from house sees action.)

Pauline

Let me alone. I don't want you to touch me. It's marriage I want and it's honorable marriage I'm going to have and if you do anything to make me loose my hopes, or make my friends ashamed of me, I'll pay you up Mr. Man, i I have to keep it up till my dying day. (Exits R .U.E.)

John

Well, by thunder. (They see Chris.) Hello Chris. Did you hear that?

Chris

(Remains silent, glares at him.)

John

You? To hell with you. (Exits R.U.E.)

John

Lonely, lonely! (Yurns over, sees Frost's hat.) Hello. A hat. Vintage of 1898. I never see a hatlike that, but that I want to take a kick at it, but with the luck I have to-day, beaten in the trial races, abused by the coach, hauled up before the faculty on account of Arty's debt to Moseheirmer, roasted by Pauline, and sent to a warm climate by Chris. If I kicked that hat, there would be sure to be a brick in it. No. (Examines it) Documents and newspaper clippings. Ah, Frost's hat. I wonder if he's as bad an actor as they say he is, poor old scout. (Reads newspaper notice. Sits on tree bench, haton knees.) "Frost the tragedian opened last night. He also closed. The others were good." (Reads another.) "Frost appeared on the incubating circuit supported by a company of "high binders ". Frost knocked his audience cold. He always does."(Read another.) "Sad case. Frost lead ing lady breaks her, breaks her engagement.. Manager is in a padded cell. (Frost enters from house sees John goes over to him, grabs hat away from him.)

Frost

Profane and snakey dastard. Would'st pry into the secrets of my mystery and make me a jeer - a scoff - a scorn, to be baited by the rablle's curse.

John

Beg pardon, come again.

Frost

"Avaunt and quit my sight."

John

But --

Frost

"Let the earth hide thee."

John

Say--

Frosy

Hence, horrible shadow. Unreal mockery. Hence. (Exits into house.)

John

(Pause.) I seem to be "in bad" there too.

-----Miss Hogg

(In house.) Oh, he's out there is he? (Enters from house.) Mr. Hammond, I was just thinking of you. You are always pro pt pay, but your room-mate--

John

Arty?

Miss Hogg

Yes. Mr. Begley is somewhat tardy. I hate to make "odorous comparisons" but altho' his folks is rich and you ain't got no

folks to speak of. When you are paid up, he,s always behind andI want to tell you that the whole business has got to be stopped.

John

In other words you want a better average. Either Arty has got to be more prompt, or I must fall behind a little--

Miss Hogg

(Severely.) What do you mean by that, Mr. Hammond? Are you hinting that you may be deleterious in your pay too?

John

Oh no, Miss Hogg, only a little joke of mine.

Miss Hogg

You might be better employed than joking a poor lone woman who has her living to make and who malignant boarders may drive her on the stage to earn her daily bread.

John

On the stage! Miss Hogg, you don't mean it?

Miss Hogg

My intentions are serious; Mr. Frost said that Carter woman made fifty thousand a year. I would be satisfied with forty; but to return, Mr. Hammond, to what is nearest my heart, I expect you to influence your chum and room-mate to pay his bills more regularly.

John

I - I influence him. Why don't you talk to him yourself?

Miss Hogg

I respect his family and I don,t want to hurt his feelings.

John

But--

Miss Hogg

Of course, if you won't do it - you won't, but I expected you'd have some of the finer feelings. But no - you'll occupy apartments - when one half of them ain,t paid for. You'll stuff yourself with my luxuries of the season and your intimate friend owes me money--

John

But he owes it, doesn't he? I dont.

Miss Hogg

It doesn't make a bit of difference. He,s your friend and if you don't make him pay up, Mr. Hammond, you ain't the man I took you for.

John

My dear Miss Hogg--

Miss Hogg

Don't "dear" me. I ain't to be "deared." You pretend to be a friend of your friend. If you was a friend you would encourage to do what is right and honorable and pay his debts. You ought to be ashamed for him. Don,t be so stuck on yourself. Remember what the good Book says about stiff necks, "Pharasees and sich--(Exits into house.)

John

Next! I wonder who's next. Im in bad with--(Begley enters L.U.E.) Hello Arty.

Begley

Hello Jack! (Begley looks agitated.)

John

Why, what's the matter?

Begley

Letter from the governor. Things are all wrong.

John

How wrong? Nobody ill at home, is there?

Begley

No. He didn't sent me any money, says, I must live within my allowance.

John

Well, that isn't much bad news. You ought to do that. By the way, I was hauled up before the "Press" this morning--

Beg

How was that?

John

Your Mosenheimer business. They got the names mixed somehow. Mistook me for you. Mosenheimer's collector, demanded his bill be paid immediately and --

Begley

What did you do? Refer him to me?

John

No, I went around with him to his lawyer and paid the bill, took the receipt. Here it is. I took the liberty old man. It cut off all scandal. It was the easiest way. You can pay me when you get the money.

Begley

That infernal swindler Mosenheimer! I won't patronize him again.

John

No, I wouldn't. Say Arty, how much do you owe Miss Hogg?

Begley

I don't know.

John

Don't tyou think you'd better pay her a little on account. She's apt to be short, you know.

Begley

I haven't any money.

John

I haven't very much, but I'll squeeze twenty out for her. Take it and give it to her, will you? (Handshim bill.)

Begley

Of course.

John

And there's noahter matter.

Begley

What's that?

John

Pauline.

Begley

What about pauline?

John

Don't you think you'd better cry a halt for her.

Begley

I don't know what you mean?

John

The girl has partly confided in me. Arthur, she knows that you and I are pretty close friends, and I think she has the idea that I am trying to influence you against her. You understand of course I don't want to do thhat, but --(Pause.)

Begley

But what?

John

You regard the affair as an ordinary flirtation, and she -- well, it has grown to be so serious matter with her, and the condition will soon present itself thatyou will in deference to your own mahhood and sense of honor give her your name - or -

Begley

What! Marry her!

John

Jack, as the Englishman says "Are you spoofing me?"

John

In was never more earnest in my life.

Begley

Marry a girl of her type, take her home to the Governor, introduce her into my set? Well, what would create a sensation.

John

Then you have the choice of two other alternations. you can break off matters now and give her a chance with a certain good square honest fellow, who will be glad to take her for the good qualities he sees in her, and pass over the slang - bad grammer, family antecedents - type, and all, or you can go on and do the devil's work. You can compromise her, you can make her a thing of reproach to her folks, you can break her heart, degrade her, in short you can do everything that the thorough paced black-guard can do; but if you act the part of one, Arty Begley, I can't call you my friend. I'd wipe you off my calling list. Even if you were my own brother.

Begley

Why Jack, I never knew you were so unsophisticated, and you who have lived out in the world and had your freedom before you came to college.

John

yes, I worked for the money to take me through here, and I was free to live my life as I saw it; but I never lost my reverence for the sex that gave me a mother, Arty, and I trust to God I never will.

Begley

yes, I guess you're the kind of a fellow who will be a mark all your life. You've given me advice. I could give you some. You have natural advantages and properly introduces into my set, you might copp off a girl with money, but you are falling over head and ears in love with Nelly Dabney, the Professor's daughter.

John

Cut, that, Arty.

Begley

Well, you are. You're the mushiest case I ever saw. The old Professor, I hear is going to be asked toresign at the end of this ter m. If you marry her, you'll have to take care of them both. A nice mill-stone you are preparing to hang around your neck. (Enter Chris R.U.E. He carries a cigar box, stands watching them. Continuing.) Oh, by the way, who is the good, honest, square fellow, who wants to make Pauline his wife?

John

Chris Kurtz.

Begley

Well, if she comes bothering you with her troubles again, tell her to marry him.

Miss Boggs

(Enters from house.) Ah, Mr. Begley, you're here are you? There's a telegram inside for you.

Begley

Telegram! (Starts to house.)

John

(Whispers, catches his arm.) Give her the twenty now.

Begley

Eh? Oh yes, by the way Hoggie, dear, here's a sawbuck for you on account. (Handing money.)

Miss Hogg

(atking it) Oh, don't trouble yourself, Mr. Begley. Any time will do for you.

Begley

I'm glad to hear that, Miss Hogg.

Miss Hogg

Oh yes. (Glares at John.) And it wouldn't be well for me to hear anyone insinuating different.

Begley

Excuse me. I'll get my "telegram." I wonder what is in it. (Exits into house.)

Miss Hogg

(Sees Chris.) You're still loafing around, Mr. Chris. If you can't attend to your work, I'll get someone who can. (Enter Prof. and Nelly L.U.E. John goes to them.)

Chris

The sooner you get someone to r eplace me, the better I will be pleased.

Miss Hogg

what do you mean by that?

Chris

Just what I say.

Miss Hogg

Are you tired of your job? Are you tired of being pampered and petted --

Chris

I'm tired of the whole business. I'm particularly tired of your vinegar voice, and your face always reminds me of a plate of cold victuals.

Miss Hogg

Take your belongings out of my establishment before night.

Chris

I'll have them out in fifteen minutes.

Miss Hogg

You ungrateful scorpion, I scorn you! (Exits into house)

Prof.

(Mildly.) Chris, my oung friend, will you allow me to--

Chris

Pardon me, Professor, but this is entirely a personal matter and out of your jurisdiction (exits into house) He s a surly fellow papa, and unworthy the kindly interest you would show him.

Prof.

tut tut, Nelly. He's a bright boy, he only lacks the virtue of self control. Some witty Frenchman said our "Vices are our virtues carried to excess" and it is true. A bad temper is merely a strong will uncontrolled. We are full of forces. Out of the soul come desires like strong currents of electricity - stream of powers. It is foolish to call ny of them bad. The Creator made them. These forces are what make a man - a real man . They are steam in a boiler.

Nelly

You were not like him, when you were his age.

Prof.

No, if I had been, I would probably have not been such - such - an old fat head.

Nelly

(Horrified.) Papa!

Prof.

I certainly would have succeeded better in life. Ah, my child, so many persons are spoken of for their goodness who is reality are nothing. They have no force - no passion - no strong desires - no fire - no go. Their heads are stored with choice mutton. It's a travesty on virtue to call such as these, virtuous. I wish I had been born more pugnacious.

Nelly

Papa! That is not of the gospel of love and peace?

Prof.

My child, no one can love, who does not know how to hate.

John

what is the old saying Professor, "All the world loves a lover."

Prof.

The worldloves a good hater, and has no use for the love that's not carried along by the flood of enthusiasm for one thing, into sweeping opposition to other things. For example, no man loves truth who does not hate lie.(Sighs.) Well dear, I'll go inside. I want to write a couple of letter. When tea is ready call me. (Exits into house.)

Nelly

Poor papa, I know he's worried, although he tries to conceal his trouble from me.

John

Tell me Nelly , what is there in the rumor?

Nelly

That he has been asked for his resignation. It is true, he leaves at the end of the term. They have treated him unjustly, cruelly, and we will probably go out West to my uncle. Oh, I don't care a jack for the possible pinch of poverty that we may have to endure, I could meet it with a smile, and cheerfully do my best to help him, but the blow to his pride is severe. He feels it keenly, I know.

John

Let's walk to the further end of the garden, Nelly, and talk of ways and plans.You know if you are going to make me your big brother, I mustn't be kept in the dark in anything. (Puts his arm in hers leading her. They exuent L.3.E. behind hammock. Chris enters from house with cigar box wrapped in brown paper which Pauline has brought on at beginning of act. He unwraps paper, looks around carefully goes up to bushes on L.U. where he has concealed the other box on his last scene, he handles this box very gingerly, he wraps it up in the paper of the first box, and then leaves it on bench in front of house. Pauline appears up at back during the business of substituting one or the other. He takes up first box and hides it in bushes, she draws back concealing herself.) (He returns to bench, lifts up box which he haswrappedup and is about to exit into the house, when Miss Hogg appears in the doorway.)

Miss Hogg

(Bars his entrance.) Where are you goinga?

Chris

To take John Hammond his present from Pauline.

Miss Hogg

I thought you had taken those beastly cigars to his room already.

Chris

No.

Miss Hogg

Well, I don't wanr your swooping around the house mo more than long enough to pack up and get out. I'll take this package from myself and leave it in mr. Hammond's room. (Takes box from Chris and exits into the house.)

Chris

(Looks after her and laughs, then turns up stage, meets Pauline who has lifted other box out of bushes and examines it.)

Pauline

(Holds out box to him.) Say, what in the blazes are you up to anyway?

Chris

Ah, you say?

Pauline

Yes.

Chris

All the better. When your lover gets to Kingdom Come, you will know you had a hand in sending him there.

Pauline

Chris, are you crazy?

Chris

Almost is not quite.

Pauline

What was that box you put in the place of this?

Chris

Do you want to know? It's a little idea of my own.

Pauline

what was in it?

Chris

An eight ounch vial of picric acid, some clay, a little gun powder, matches and sand paper. When your dear Jack attempts to sample your gift, theopening of the box will scratch the matches on the sand paper, the powder will ignite, the concussion will jar the picric acid and--

Pauline

An infernal machine.

Chris

Exactly!

Pauline

You murderer, you madman! What do you hope to gain by this? Revenge on Jack Hammond! Jack Hammond is nothing to me.

Chris

You told me, he was ---

Chris

I lied to you.

Chris

I heard you talk with him. You're lying now. (Pulls out his handkerchief.)

Pauline

He is an innocent man.

Chris

Then name the man you really love?

Pauline

Why--(Pause.) I will not waste further words with you. I'll warn him of his danger, and you, I will denounce you to the law.

Chris

(Produces vial, saturating handkerchief.) Try it, and you'll send your own father to a felon's call. Ah, we are joined, your

father and I , in the brotherhood of blood. We devote our brains, our lives to the removal of the ~~~~ enemies ofthe social revolution.

Pauline

(Rushes up steps of house.) Open, I say! Help, help! (Chris runs after her, grabs her from behind by the throat, stifling her cries, drags her up stage. He holds handkerchief over her face, she finally falls stupified, he lets her down behind wall at back L. of opening concealing her from view. Enter Begley, he carries suit and hand bag, cane, umbrella, coat, etc. Pretty well laden down. Prof. Dabney and Frost following him on.)

Frost

There is no questions, my boy, you must go by the first train.

Begley

Of course. (Chris is behind felce at back. Begley sees him.) Oh Chris, see if there,s a taxie or a hack in front of the hotel, will you? (Chris exits R.U.E.) I wonder where Jack is?

Prof.

I left him here withNelly. There they are. (Pointing off L.)

Begley

Jack, Jack, come here.

John

(Off L.) Hello, what's the matter. (Enters L. with Nelly.) (Miss Hogg appears on the doorway.) Are you going on a journey?

Begley

yes. Father has met with a serious accident. I had a telegram. Say, will you let me have some money?

John

Surely. (Pulls out bills and hands some to Begley.)

Begley

I'll stop at Pauline's and get some cigars. The trainer's cut off my smoking, but - but this is somewhat different.

John

Ahem! You needn't stop at Paulines, Arty. I have the box you sent to me from her. You shall have it.

Begley

I don't want to rob you.

John

Not at all, old man, I would much prefer you having that box. I'll get it. It's in my room. (Starts for house)

Miss Hoggs

It hasn't ~~~~en taken to your room yet, Mr. Hammond. Here it is. (Steps inside of door. Re-appears with box. Hands it to John.)

John

Thanks. Will you have one now. (Apparently about to open the box.)

Arty

No on the train will do.

John

Room for it in this bag?

Begley

Yes. (John opens the club bag, puts in the box, and then snaps the bag.)

Chris

(Re-enters.) There's no taxi in front of the hotel.

Begley

Then I'll have to take the street car. I must get thatnfirst train. Chris! Give me a hand with my baggage, will you? (Hands

Chris bag containing box and suit case, in fact nearly everything except cane.) Well, good-bye everybody. (Chris exits R.U.E.)

Begley

(Shakes hands all around, starts up stage, Pauline rises half dazed.)

Pauline

Arty, you - you are going away?

Begley

Yes, what's the matter with you? (Noticing her condition) Good-bye, haven't time to talk now.

Pauline

(Clinging to him.) Save Jack, save him. That box - danger. Oh! (Staggers.)

Begley

She is talking about you Jack. You attend to her, won't you? (Breaks away from her, ratherimpatiently. She reels and John supports her.)

John

What is it, Pauline. What is the matter?

Pauline

The box of cigars. Give it back to me, won't you?

John

I give it to Arty. It's in his traveling bag.

Pauline

My God, my God!

John

Chris is carrying it to the station. (Loud explosion heard off R.U.E. Frost and Begley rush off R.U.E. Prof. Dabney follows. Exclamations from everybody. General excitement. Pauline has fallen on her knees, and is clinging to Jack sobbing..)

Prof.

(Re-appears.) Phone for a physician quick. (Miss Hog exits into house.)

John

What has happened? (Prof. points to R.U.E. Begley and Frost appear bearing on Chris whose face is blackened and bleeding. Clothes torn showing the effects of the explosion. They lay him down R.C.)

Prof.

That is a mystery. If he lives he will always be a cripple.

Pauline

(shudders.) The rath of God, in payment for his sin.

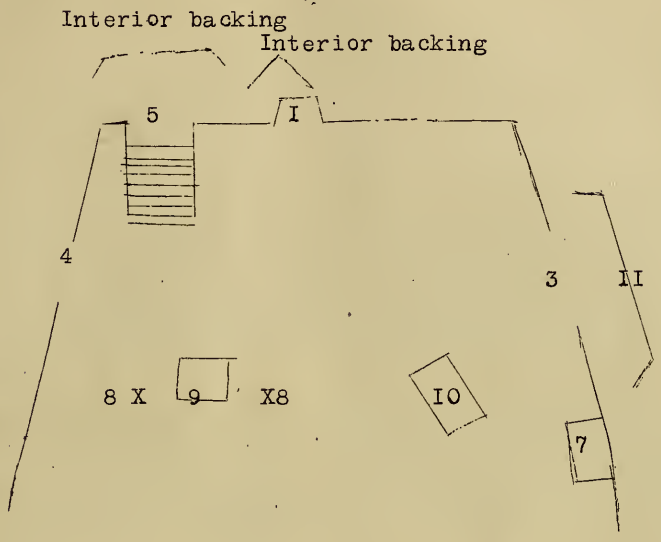
C U R T A I N

Positions:-Miss Hogg is on steps. R. Frost, Chris, Begley and Dabney are R. Pauline is C. Jack and Nelly L.)

---oooOOOOOOOooo---

A C T II

Three months later. New Haven. Sitting room at Miss Hogg's. A comfortably furnished interior.



(I) French window curtained C at back.
Exterior backing. (2) Arch R of C- --with steps leading up to platform. Platform runs off R Interior backing.
(3) Door L U E (4) Door R. L. E. (5) Arch Interior backing
(6) Steps (7) Fire-place. (8) Chairs. (9) Table
(IO) Sofa. (II) Interior backing.

---oooOOOOOOOooo---

A C T II

AT RISE: --John Hammond and Arthur Begley are discovered seated R and L of table R)

John.

(in chair R of table.) Arty old man--I'm glad to see you back, but I wish for our own sake you had brought better news.

Beg.

I couldn't bring much worse could I?

John.

And your father is in the sanitarium.

Beg.

Yes, they put him there after he made that unsuccessful attempt to kill himself.

John.

What ever drove him to that mad act?

Beg.

His business troubles. He was beaten in the law-suit on which depended every dollar he had in the world, and when he was deprieved of his "God" he was "buffaloed." You see the governor's affairs have been going from bad to worse for some time. I never realized the condition of things until the lawyers opened my eyes. I've got to earn my own daily bread. Think--what a prospect. And I haven't trained for the event. Isn't it lovely?

John.

Oh well--don't give up. You know fate sometimes hammers us to find out whether we ring of the true metal.

Beg.

I wish she had lost her hammer before she got a chance to knock me. It's "Commencement" to-morrow--

John.

Yes--

Beg

You get your sheep-skin and I don't.

John.

You might make a plea to the faculty considering the extraordinary circumstances, and ask for a special examination.

Beg.

Ye Gods! Where would I get off, if they concluded to give it to me?

John.

Why "cram" and pass it. I'll stay over and coach you.

Beg.

My dear Jack, I have been in the "saddle" for four years. I hate the sight of a Latin crib, or a Greek "Pony." If it hadn't been for your help, I never could have flunked through so far. But for me to attempt to go up before those classical, amthematical philosphical and philogogical auatomists--alone--I'd feel as if I were on a table in a clinic with an army of vulture vividrctionists around me all clamoring for the first chance at my vitals.

John.

But Arthy, what do you rporpose to do?

Beg.

"Propose" Yes, that's the word "Propose." Well, if it wasn't for a certain obstacle, I'd propose to the first femal who had "Dough" enough to adopt me?

John.

Talk sense--Arty?

Beg.

I'm talking dollars, that's better?

John.

You're not the man to marry for money anymore than I am.

Beg.

Ah! You're still thinking of love "in a cottage" Honeysuckle over the proach, bread and cheese and kisses, with that amiable nomentity--Nelly Dabney."

John.

Stop that! (aroused.)

Beg.

"Dabney" that name makes me grit my teeth everytime I think of it.

John.

Then I'd stop thinking of it?

Beg.

"Dabney" is the name of the man who beat the father in that law-suit and has brought me to the border-line of tra mpdon. Damn Dabney, I say, and all his family.

John.

I don't see why--he may have had right on his side, he certainly had the law--where was the case tried?

Beg.

In the North-west in Idahp--in Dabney's own stamping grounds.

John.

What was the case about?

Beg

The ownership of mines.

John.

Was Richard M. Dabney the man?

Beg.

Yes, ever heard of him?

John.

I should say I had, he's the power in that section, and he's Nelly's uncle and the professor's only brother.

Beg.

(In affedted s urprise.) Well--by thunder! No wonder I don't like them.

John.

The professor and he are not on good terms, haven't seen each other for years.

Beg.

I don't care for that, they are of the same blood. I'll have to swear the vendetta against them. (half jokingly)

John.

Arty--you're a great big baby. The professor's present troubles would command the sympathy of anyone but a yellow wolf.

Beg.

What is he going to do, now he's lost his job at the university.

John.

He has an idea of staying here and coaching back-ward students. A poor outlook.

Beg.

I suppose Nelly will stay too and help her father out by working in a bakery, unless you marry her and take her away with you.

John.

Arty--I love Nelly devotedly, but until my own position is assured, I wouldn't dream of as ing her to be my wife. But I'm going to toil with the hope of winning her in the end.

Beg.

very commendable. Speaking of love, have you seen my lady friend of the cigar counter here of late?

John.

Pauline? No.

Beg.

Nothing's been done about that explosion mystery.
(Miss Hoggs enters R sits down)

John.

Nothing has evere been explained. Both Pauline and Chris during the investigation were daggedly silent, and after it, Pauline mysteriously disappeared leaving no trace. I could tell nothing. You were absent There wasn't enough of your travelling bag left to "wad" a gun, and poor Chris is a cripple for life.

Beg.

"Poor Chris" as you cal him, was probaly carrying around an Anarachist bomb with him, and got what he deserved?

Miss Hogg.

That's what I say. He belongs to a bad set. Them furriners are awful. They ought to take him and that Pauline Met zgar and her father and the whole crew and set them do wn on a "deserted island, and let them blow each other up until there was nothing left to blow." Them furriners, have no business here among us.

John.

Where were you bron, Miss Hogg?

Miss Hogg

In "Birmingham" dear old England. God love her.

John.

Oh, I see, you're an English Hogg, not a German Hogg.

Miss Hogg

I'm a "Brummagem" button why do you ask?

John.

Chris and Pauline were both born in America, that's all.
(enter Prof Dabney and Nelly R)

Prof Dabney.

Miss Hog--what is this--you have been saying to Nelly?

Miss Hogg

I have been saying just what I meant, Professor. Your mouth is up to-morrow, and I would like to have your rooms. Of course you may mean all right, but I ain't taking no chances. You've lost your job at college, and really I don't see how you're going to pay your wy.

Prof Dab.

I have al ays paid it Madame?

Miss Hoggs

I ain't denying that, but things as was, and things as is to be--is--very very different. There's Frost the tragedian, he never thinka of paying(Frost enters R)
he's got me used to the idea. I don't look for no money from him, but you have always been so punctual, if you fall down on me I couldn't survive. And without visible means of support you're bound to hand somebody a lemon. I don't want it, so I thought I would let you down easy by te lling your daughter.

Frost

(half to himself.) "My daughter, oh my daughter!

Miss Hogg

Mr Frost!

Frost

Brabantio t the Duke, second scene.

Miss Hogg

Besides Prof Dabney I'm going to close up the h use for the summer anyway. I am going in "Vaudeveal" with Mr. Frost.

Frost

"Angels and Ministers of Grace, defend us."

Miss Hogg

What's that?

Frost

Ahem! Hamlet to the ghost, fourth scene.

Miss Hogg

I am to fo Delilat o Mts Frost's Samson. My costume arrived this morning. I intend to wear it around the house and get use to it. I feel so fo lish in it now.

Arty

Who's looney now?

Miss Hogg

Yes, I feel like a perfect goose.

Frost

"The devil damn the black. Thou cream faced lemon. Where gotst thou that goose look?

Miss Hogg

Eh!

Frost

MacBeth last act.

Miss Hogg

I wish you would stop saying thamm things at least them as has curse words in them.

Frost

They are "curses" not loud but deep." "Evangeline."

Miss Hogg

Ahem! "Evangeline" that's my stage name. Insteaa of Sarah Hogg I amto be Evangeline Bacon.

Frost

"Hog" and "Bacon" Both suggesting--hams.

Miss Hogg

Of course I hate to lower my family pride by this stage business and putting myself within reach of the foot-lights with all their temptations and such, but the work is so easy and the rewards so big. I heard that Julia Marlowe gets three thousand a week?

Frost

(dreamily.) On the alfalfa circuit, they do eighteen sho s a day and average six and cakes, but no matter.

Miss Hogg

What are you saying?

Frost

I am but communing with myself.

Miss Hogg

You'd better go and get ready for our rehearsel. That's what I'm going to do. (exits R)

Frost

Lead on, I follow thee. Oh what have I tumbled up against. Oh the "Rumfed rongon," But, no matter. Why then "Blow wind" Come wrack! At least we'll die with a harness on our back. (exits R)

Beg.

Professor--I should think you'd be glad to get out of this made-house?

Prof Dabney.

(abstractedly.) Yes, yes, the notice is so sudd n, though, I am used to the place, and, ah, well, Nelly we must look for other quarters.

Nelly

Yes father at once. I'll get my hat.

Prof Dab.

No dear you gather up your things and pack them. We'll save that much time. I'll go and look for a place.

Nelly

Let Jack go with you if he will.

John

Of course Jack will. There are xozen of places in the neighborhood, where you will be more comfortable than you are here?

Prof Dab.

When we get back dear, I'll get together my books, and other p ssessions. I don't want to remain in this house longer now than absolutely necessary. Come Jack.

John

Excuse me Arty.

Beg

Certainly. (John and Prof Dab exits L U E.) Don't run away Nelly. (As Nelly starts to go R U E.) You haven't even said "Hello " to a fellow yet. (Nelly pauses, then comes down and offers her hand)

Nelly

Jack told me Mr Begley, that you had a great deal of trouble lately. Believe me--I am very--very sorry.

Begley

My troubles, Nelly, are not unmissed with blessings when I hear sweet words of sympathy from you. (Holds her hand looks steadily at her.) No, you haven't changed a bit.

Nelly

(laughs.) Why how could I in three short months?

Beg

They have seemed long months to me dear. I counted the hours, the days the minutes I have been away. (she tries to release her hand.) Don't hurry so! Tell me, do you know what brought me back to New Haven?

Nelly

I would have thought it strange if you wouldn't have come back to see your frienas. Of course we all hear that you decided to leave college and we were sorry that you didn't remain to take your degree, but you and Jack have been such close friends--have been like brothers for nearly four years. I never doubted but that you would be here to see him receive his honors?

Beg

That would be a great pleasure no doubt. But I must confess, my visit here is more connected with a matter of supreme interest to myself.

Nelly

Indeed!

Beg

Yes, and I hope of interest to you too. Nelly, you must have suspected what was in my heart?

Nelly

Really, I never had the slightest idea.

Beg

I have never breathed a word of it before, but the time has come when I must and will speak. Nelly, I love you I want you for my wife.

Nelly

Mr. Begley?

Beg

y love for you absorbs every passion in my breast. If you refa refuse it, I don't khow what will become of me. I have stood aloft before, because of my friendship for Jack Hammond. I thought you and he cared for each other, but he confided to me to-day that he had never breathed a word of love to you. He would not care to be saddled with the burden of your father besides, he has another infatuation. Nelly I have lost the hopes of a large fortune, but I still have a competence left. I will cheerfully share it with you and that grand old gentleman your father. T brought this ring, this engagement ring, it was my mothers, let me put it on your finger, won't you? Please say yes.

Nelly

I can't say that Mr. Begley. I can only say thank you and "Good-bye.

Beg

Good-bye? What.' You refuse me?

Nelly

It looks that way.

Beg

Because of jack Hammond. Do you know what jack Hammond is? Really is?

Nelly

Yes, he's a real man, a man among men. One who has always been your friend, and I may add, your staunch defender. Mr Begley you have needed defense many many times. The world at large don't regard your faults as virtues, many things are said not alotgether complimentary, and you owe Jack Hammond for his never failing trust in you, more than you can ever repay.

Beg.

But you shall know the truth about him. I will tear the sheep-skin off this wolf and reveal him for what he is. I may have many faults, but I don't go around temtping young girls, breaking their hearts and covering their parents with disgrace and shame, but jack Hammond does this self same thing and I can prove it. Ask him the truth about Pauline Metzgar, and hear what he will say.

Nelly

Our interview is at an end, Mr Begley?

Beg

(seising her.) No, it is not. Not until I've had my say. that unfortunate Pauline has had to leave her home because of jack Hammond. I blush when I think of what that poor girl has endured because of this man to whom I've been a brother.

Nelly
(struggling.) Let me go. Let me go.
Beg
Not until you promise to ask him about Pauline Metzger. Make him tell all the details of her miserable story?
Pauline
(enters C window.) Pauline can do that herself. Arthur Begley!
Beg
(starts?) Pauline!
Pauline
Yes Arty, only Pauline. I am sorry that I have to disturb your love making, but when you try to make use of my "miserable story" as you call it, and juggle with my name in such a careless way it's about time for me to "butt in" Miss Dabney you're not afraid of this man are you?
Nelly
Why no, I --
Pauline
That's right my dear. He's not at all dangerous. He was going to tear the sheep-skin off of Jack Hammond a few minutes ago, and prove him a wolf. If he gets unpleasant dear, I can show you how to pull off his mark and make him a monkey.
Beg.
I have no time to talk to you now, so please leave this house at once.
Pauline
What a conceited monkey you are. Don't flatter yourself. I didn't come here to see you, Miss Dabney, is your father at hom
Nelly
He has gone out for a little while.
Pauline
My business is with him?
Nelly
He will return shortly.
Pauline
I will wait. (sits R at table. Pause.) Don't let me interfere. Miss Dabney with anything you have to do, Mr Begley and I can entertain each other until your father returns?
Nelly
I have a great deal to do, Miss Metzger, so if you will please excuse me--
Pauline
certainly. (Nelly exits R U E)
Beg
(crosses over to Pauline l w and intense.) Damn you!
Pauline
I'd say the same thing to you, only that you're not worth a damn.
Beg
Why did you follow me here?
Pauline
I didn't. Don't be so stuck on yourself.
Beg.
Don't lie to me?
Pauline
Thank you, I don't care to emulate your chief talent. People lie through fear, interest or malice. I don't fear you.

Beg

You don't?

Pauline

(cooly.) Not the least little 'itty 'itty bit, and I haven't any particular interest in you. You are about to join the down and out club, and then as to malice, oh slush. I've done a heap of thinking the last three months, Mr Man, and the conclusion is not flattering to you in anyway.

Beg

Oh than I'm not your "hero " anymore. Your "Big brave hero."

Pauline

Don't make me laugh, it cracks my lip. I've stacked up against some men as cowardly as you, some as cruel, a few as mean, and a very few with your "lovely gall." There may be just as great liars I haven't met them thiugh, you see I have lived only a few months in New York and was never in Chicago at all. But for a co bination of cheap shaktes, white liver and tin horn gazabos, you can fly the pennant. You are the world's champion.

Beg.

Your vocabularly like your mind still reeks of the gutter.

Pauline

Well you see I've gor you in my mind, and it's hard to describe with nice words, things that are not nice.

Beg

Where have you been these three months?

Pauline

Not very far from you, in New York City.

Beg

And what doing there?

Pauline

Earning my living by punching a typewriter for a prominent firm of lawyers. White Wolcott and Bamberger. They are the attorneys for the man who beat your father in that big mining suit.

Beg.

What, you know?

Pau ine

Oh yes, I know. I know that the man's name was Dabney. I know that the young girl here just now is his neice. I know more--that she is his heriess. I "typed" his last will and testament. I know also why you came up here and are trying to win her out. Would you like to hear anything more that I know?

Beg

Then your business with the professor--

Pauline

Is to tell him of his daughter's prospects, and put him wise to you.

Beg

Any blow you strike at me, will only re-act on yourself. You will be the real sufferer in the end. You had bett be sensible, Pauline. Circumstanced as I am I can do nothing for you, however, I might desire to do so, but with the control of Nelly Dabney's fortune, I could place you where your heart's fondest hopes would lead you.

(enter Miss Hogg R she stands listening. Se is dressed as Delilah)

Pauline

Where is that?

Beg

As my Empress. The sole arbiter of my future, the only being in this worlf I love, for I do love you Pauline, in spite of all the cruel things you say. I love you devotedly ardently. (approaching her)

Pau line

Oh "Guffle."

Beg

What! What is "Guffle."

Pauline

A conbination of "Guff" and "Piffle."

Miss Hogg

What is going on here. You shameless creature. How dare you set in my setting room, and have my boarder talk to you about love. There can't be no love where I am. You scheming hussy , you are worser than the awful seductive Jazebel that I'm going to be in vaudeville, and that's saying a good deal.

Pauline

How did "This" blow in (looking at Miss Hogg) Why it's Hoggie. Hoggie. Go put on more clothes. You make me blush for my sex. What are you made up for anyway.

Miss Hogg

Leave my house at once. If you don't take her away Mr Begley, I'll send for a policeman.

Beg

(expostulating.) My dear Miss Hogg.

Miss Hogg

Don't "dear" me?

Pauline

Don't "dear". her, she's cheap.

Miss Hogg

Mt Begley I am surprised at you. (calls.) Mr. Frost. Mr. Frost. Gastleigh. (at door.) Come here.

(entering. Dressed as Samson. He wears colored classic tunic and sandals, has long haired wig and flesh tights and flesh shirt. His arms and legs have lumps and bumps all over them representing muscles.) What is it, Delilah?

Miss Hogg

I want a policeman?

Frost

I've no objection?

Miss Ho g

Go and get me one--quick.

Frost

What--made up as I am, nothing doing. How do you do Pauline. How do you like my make up.

Pauline

Hello, store hatchet. Yoy look swell in spots?

Frost

Swell in spots. Oh yes, you refer to my muscles?

Pauline

Are they real?

Frost

Of course. This is the way I look after I have killed five thousand Philistines, I make my first entrance with the jaw bone of an ass.

Beg

You can't help having that sort of a jaw bone, Frost.

Miss Hogg

If you won't go after one, I'll get an officer mys elf. (exits L U E)

Frost

She means what she says, she's an extraordinary woman. You had better make your escape while you can. In the language of Shakespeare "Go chase yourself" Into the garden with you. Hasten beautiful Pauline, hasten.

Beg

Yes, come into the garden, we will talk things over.

Pauline

You can talk and talk until you're blue in the face, Mt Man, I am on to all your curves. (Pauline exits window C Begley follows her)

Frost

She's right, the time for talk is passed. Actions follows now. I wish I could have a little "chills and fever music," It would help some. (hums a few bars of melodramic music "hurry".) "There is a tide in the affairs of men, which, taken at the flood leads on to a fortune Nelly is going to have money. I have neglected Nelly, I never have seen Nelly's good points before. Begley has wooed her and she has turned him down, Jack hasn't woed her yet, but worships her from afar off as some poor captive might a star whose slippery beam he gazes on, while squatting amid the venemous toads in his dismal dark abd doleful dungeon. While Jack and Begley quarrel, I can carry off the prize. Aha. "If Jack kill Begley, or Begley him, either way makes my game. I--'Tis here-- (tapping his forehead.) but yet confused. Knavery's plain face is never seen till used. (Nelly outside sings a few bars of song.) Ah, she is singing, or thinks she is. She must cut that when we are married. I hear the patter of her little feet upon the stair. "Like mice, her little feet peep out from under neath her petticoat. First I paralize her with my shape (assumes ponpous pose. Nelly enters R U E she catches sight of Frost utters a little scream)

Nelly

Oh! (starts back)

Frost

Dear not Nelly, it is only I, A gastliehg Frost. You can cherish the memory at this moment through all your life. You can tell your children about it, how you saw their father made up as "Samson the mighty" before the hydra headed multitude ever feasted their vulgar gaze upon him.

Nelly

(bewildered.) Mr Frost?

Frost

You may call me by my first name. "Alcibiades" Alcibiades, as your father will infrom you, was the handsomest man o f his time I don't want to appear egotistical but with the name--some of his striking points are re-incarnated in me. (stalks around the stage)

Nelly

Oh! Mr Frost go to bed please do. I'll send for a doctor?

Frost

Nay.. Nay! I need no doctor "Throw physic to the dogs " I'll none of it." Nelly I love you, you must be my wife. The pent up parsion is pallpitating in my breast. My manly bosom is bursting. (she runs away from him he follows her up.) The niagric torrent of my adoration for thee, has broken from its bonds. I can no longer disguise my feelin Nelly. I am offering you the chance of your life. Be mine! Be mine!

Nelly.

(cals.) Miss Hogg. Miss Hogg. Oh where is Miss Hoggs. (Miss Hoggs enters L door.)

Frost

Don't profane this sacred hour with her name. Poor deluded wretch. I have used her simply as a stepping stone, to win my heart's best hope. 'Tis true that I have played the villain but you, Nelly , you were the prize. Be mine. Be mine. I will can her name in all my contracts and put in yours. Come! Come! In the sweet deliruim of love we will forget "Hoggie" her very existence. We will sgut her out.

Miss Hog

She will shut you out first.

Frost

Ah! What horrid sounds salute my ear. Ah. You, Evangeline?

Miss Hogg

It's Sarah Hog g talking now. "You git" "Can" me will you. Get out of my setting room get out of my house you don't board here no more. Git. (picks up broom.) Beats him with it)

Frost

Let me go to my room and get my clothes.

Miss Hogg

" Git" nothing. I'll keep them for the board that ou owe me. Out. Out before I massacre you. 'beats him out of window)

Frost

(at window,) Woman, at least let me have a pair of--

Miss Hogg

(slams him with the broom.) Not ever a pair of socks.

Frost

To cover my--

Miss Hogg

(Business slams him again.) Not even a collar button I'm going to put a padlock on your door, no to be "took" off until you pay me up.

Frost

Oh Delilah.

Miss Hogg

I'll Deliah you. Give me all that stuff I paid for. (Grabs his long wig pulls it off pursues him around the stage and lib business chases him off through window)

Prof Dabney

(off L.) Coem in my bot come in. I'm sure Nelly will be delighted to see you. (Prof Dabney enters L U E assisting Chris who is very pallid, bent and walks with a crutch)

Nelly

(Goes to him.) Chris. So you are out at last?

Chris

Yes, Miss Nelly, and I want d my first visit to be to you. Believe me, I am not ungrateful to you and your father for all you have done for me.

Prof Dabney

Pshaw Chris, we did nothing.

Chris

You sympathy meant an awful lot to me as friendless as I am. It proved to me that there as some good in this world after all.

Nelly

(l ads him to chair R.) Rest over here Chris, and tell me of your future plans and hopes.

Chris

I don't know yet, my career here at the scientific school is ended--and--(pause)

Nelly

Where is Jack, papa?

Prof Dabney

I left him bargaining with Mrs Apple-gate. He's trying to arrange for us to take up our quarters there. Oh by the way, I have a letter, here a special delivery letter. I have not opened it yet. (producing letter.) Entertain Chris dear, wheile I see what it is. (Opens letter reads first line, starts pause.) Nelly!

Nelly

(who is talking in dumb show to Chris.) Yes, papa.

Prof Dabney

(with emotion.) Your uncle Dick--

Nelly

Is the letter from him, papa?

Prof Dab.

He is dead my child. This is from his lawyers. You read it dear I--I cannot (unable to control his feelings Pauline and Begley appear at the window)

Nelly

(has gone over to him takes the letter and reads) "We regret to infrom you of the sudden dèmise of your brother the late Richard M Dab.ey, who passed away in Idaho last Tuesday. He has been our client for many yearsand he deposited with us his last will and testament, on his vist to New York several week ago. By the terms. (John enters L) of this insturment yourself and daughter are sole legates to his large property subject to certain trifling provisoss the principle one is that you abandon your present professorship and remove at on e to Idaho, there to carry on certain operations inaugurated by your brother, and which he desires should not cease with hss death. If you will call at our office we will put you in possession of all facts and details there. Respectfully White Woolcoth and Bamberger. Att orney's at law.

Prof Dabney

Dick reaches out the olive branch to me from the great beyond.

Nelly

And has relieved you from all vare for the future-- (Goes to John .) Did you hear jack?

John

Yes, you are rich now/ Nelly, I wish you joy from the bo tom of my heart?

Nelly

And we must go to Idaho.

Prof Dabney

Idaho. (squinning.) The old point of difference between Dick and his "Fossilized" brother as he used to call me. What use am I in Idaho. I don't know anything about mines?

Nelly

Jack here does, you must engage him to help you.

Prof Dabney

Will you help me, jack?

John

As well as I can?

Prof Dabney

I'll pay you handsomely, I love to scatter money when I have it.

Beg. Chris

Don't forget me when you are distributing your favors, Professors. I'd like to have a job out there too.

Prof Dabney

If I can give you one, you certainly shall Chris, my boy, you shall finish your course at the Sheffield. I'll do that much for you. (Professor is beaming with good nature)

Nelly

jack!

John

Yes, Nelly.

Nelly

This is a day of events, while you were out now with papa I had two ptoposals of marriage, and I said No to both of them, Jack, jack, you don't think the less of me do you, now that I havethe prospect of being very very rich. I was sort of expecting that you would propose to me also, but you haven't, I suppose I will have too.

John.

Nelly! (Puts his arm around her and kisses her quickly) Miss Hoggs entering C carrying Frost's wig and Samson's tunic, sees action)

Miss Hogg

Ah! (Points at them everybody turns John and Nelly stands demurely L)

Miss Hogg

What is this, what is going on here?

Pauline

Why Hoggie, Prof Dabney has just been left a million dollars.

Miss Hogg

What? (astounded)

Prof Dabney
Or two million. I don't know how much brother Dick was worth?

Miss Hogg
And I ordered you from the house. How can I sqaure it? What can I do? What can I do. (Flourishes wig and tunis in distress)

Prof Dabney
Never mind! I forgive you, and if I can do anything for you I will. Just ask it. I want to be of use to all my friends, I'll lend them money, I'l--

Frost
(sticks head around edge of window.) Professor!

Prof Dabney
Eh, Frost?

Frost
Lend me a pair of pants. (enter in barrel)

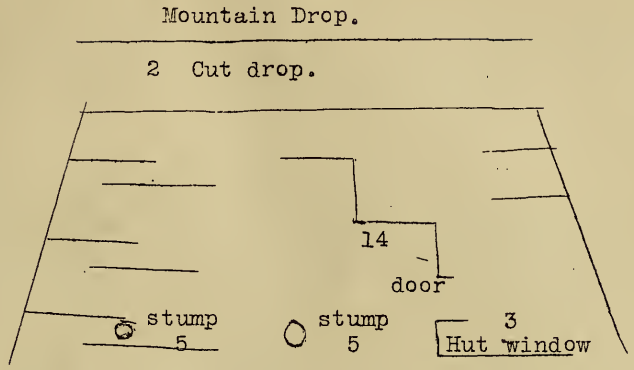
C U R T A I N

1-K

"College Chums."

Act Third.

In the "Cour d' Alene" mountains, Idaho.



1- Mountain drop at back. 2- Cut drop, of wooded mountains in front of same. 3- A set hut with door, and window piece return down L. Sign office of the Purple Monkey Mine. 3 - A fence all overgrown. with weeds, supposed to guard opening of abandoned shaft, upper L of C 5. Stump. Wood wings and rock rows. A -cross back about 12 ft. high in wire, on this travels an ore car or carrier during act. Tree stumps R and L Up against wall of hut is a pile of pickaxes lanterns, a wheel-barrow, coil of rope with hook on end, mass of miners tools.
At Rise:- Pauline is discovered seated on stump down L/with pencil and pad of paper taking dictation. John is in C. Nelly is over right upper gazing at the ore car as it journeys across on cable)

John.

(Is dressed as mining superintendent, high laced boots, rough tweed suit, soft hat, etc) Sit here! (Spreads his handkerchief on stump R) One moment, Nelly dear, until I've finished. (Turns to Pauline) Let me see, Where were we.

Pauline

(Reads) "We will continue our shipments over your line as here tofore."

John

Oh yes,(Dictating) "Provided the impending strike is adjusted and we are able to ship any ore at all." Period. In reference to hint in your last concerning rebates our president Mr. Dabney is heartily opposed to accepting any such favors. His principles favor strict compliance with not only the letter, but the spirit of the law. I am respectfully, yours, etc." Now Miss Metzger kindly type this with the others, I have given you, and I will sign them. (Pauline gathers up papers exit into house)

John.

You say Nelly, your father isn't much better?

Nelly

No Jack! He is still confined to his room.

John

I wonder if hewill be able to receive me to-night, I have so many things I want to talk about. I don't like to go ahead without his authority, and---

Nelly

Why, you know he has perfect confidence in you.

John

I want to deserve that confidence, dear, and not make any mistakes. We are confronted by some critical conditions.

Nelly

Connected with the strike you say is threatening.

John

Yes.

Nelly

How have these troubles come about, Jack?

John

Through the disturbing and disorganizing influence of a couple of persons who should be the very last to desire to cause your father or myself any worry.

Nelly

Who are these people Jack?

John

People we brought from the East.

Nelly

Pauline Metzger in there? (Pointing to office)

John

No, she is faithful, industrious and attends strictly to business.

Nelly

Who then?

John

First, Chris, Kurtz.

Nelly

Chris? What! Poor cripple Chris.

John

Chris is a natural born agitator, he is like a fire brand thrown into a powder magazine. He always reminds me of that supposi-tions gentlemen from abroad, whose first inquiry when he lands at Ellis Island is -"Have you a government here? If you have, I'm against it" That individual makes mevery tired who seeks shelter under the bene-ficent and protecting wings of the American Eagle and who grab the chance immediately to pull out the tail feathers of that noble bird of freedom and wonder that he screams.

Nelly

And has Chris been making mischief?

John

Chris is an ungrateful "lad" pedantic- vindictive- and it will be money in your father's pocket to pension him for life, and banish him from these enterprises. He is making fresh trouble every day with his wild visionary theories of what he terms the "right" of Man" and the "Social revolution". Your father thought his know-lenge of chemistry would be useful in the labratory, so it might, but his principal accomplishment here seems to be in the nature of inciting this content among the men and subserving all discip-line.

Nelly

Why don't you give him a friendly word of warning, Jack?

John

I have tried to, he dislikes me intensely for some mysterious reason that I cannot fathom. His forlorn condition has always appealed to my sympathy, and I have put up with a great deal more from him on that account, but the time has come when my good nature and my duty to your father must go to the mat to gether.

My good nature hasto be licked. The work of disorganization must stop. In plain words, Nelly, Chris has to get out.

Nelly

Jack! I'm so sorry, so sorry!

John

So am I. I'm sorry for Chris. I'm sorry also for Arthur Begley, The way things have turned out with him, hurts me more than I can tell.

Nelly

(Has glanced off L U E lays hand on Jack's arm) Hush Jack! He's walking this way now.

John

Go into the office, Nelly. I have something to say to him, and I would spare him the humiliation of anyone being present, except the two of us. (Nelly crosses L exits into office L.) (Beg enters L U E He is not dressed in working clothes like Jack, but wears fashionable sack suit)

Beg

Hello Jack!

John

Hello!

Beg

I heard you wanted to see me.

John

Yes.

Beg

What is it?

John

(Pause) It comes hard for me to tell it, Arty. Say old man! Send in your resignation won't you?

Beg

That's pretty good! Sounds well, the way you say it. Are you talking for old Dabney, or showing your own authority?

John

Don't take that tone, Arthur.

Beg

Mr. Begley, if you please.

John

But I don't please, see here, you know you haven't been doing right by the company with us, out here, it isn't play, but work, hard work and plenty of it. I warned you before you came, it wasn't an outing, but you insisted on coming. There's not a piece of work, or bit of business whhwhich you have been entrusted, but what has suffered. The spreeing, and the gambling, the all night carouses in Wardner, you dubious associates of both sexes.

Beg

Cut that, I've hard enough of your sermon. Come down to the tacks! Are you acting under old Dabney's instructions, or not?

John

Mr Dabney will approve of everything I do.

Beg

Don't be so damned sure of that. You're not making such a hit as you would like him to believe. You've got the men all disatisfied. If you don't know it, I'll tell you, you are mighty unpopular here, and when Dabney is put in possession of the facts, you may get your own walking papers. So don't get so chesty

John

(Slowly and quietly) You had better give in your resignation Begley.

Beg

I'll see you in hell first.

John

Begley, you are discharged.

Beg.

I won't take a discharge from you.

John

I know you haven't any money, your accounts are all over-~~xxxx~~ drawn I prepared for your departure from the service of the company. Here. (Takes out pocket-book, from it a check, hands it to Begley)

Beg

(Hesitates) What's this?

John

My checque for five hundred dollars, take it! (Begley does so) I hate to think of you being entirely broke. If you will take my advice, you'd better start East immediately.

Beg

I don't want your advice.

John

Good-bye!

Beg

This is refreshing. I must say, and to think that all this property belonged to my father and was stolen from him by the juggling lawyers of old Dabney's swindling brother, and here am I, his son "Discharged", that was the word you used wasn't it? "Discharged" by you whom I tolerated as an acquaintance at College whom I patronized in a way my inferior socially, financially, er - er-

John

Go on, make it intellectually, physically, morally, I don't care.

Beg

I know what's the matter with you, you're jealous, you're afraid if I stay, I'll cut you out with Nelly.

John

Kindly leave Nelly's name out of your ravings, will you?

Beg

I'll do as I please about that, what I think best. (Cris limps on L U E stands listening)

John

No you won't. Your best isn't good enough for me. In this matter, you'll do as I please. See here, Begley, I've put up with all your infernal nonsense I intend to. I have been your friend ever since we met. I helped you with my purse, I helped you with my brains when we were at college together, I was loyal all through, I've stood your friend out here as best I could. I have put up with your slurs, I have closed my eyes to your sneaking underhand conspiracies, but patience has its limits. Don't trespass on mine anymore. If you do, I'm going to take the hardest punch at you, I ever took at a human being in my life, and it's dollars to doughnuts I'll lick you, Arty Begley, I'll lick you to a frazzle.

Pauline

(Enters from office) Mr. Hammond! They are "phoning" to you from the mine, there is more trouble, I fear.

Chris

(Chuckles) Humph! And there's more to come, there's trouble on all sides, I don't wonder at it. (Pauline exits into office.)

John

(Has started for office, stops) No more do I! Kurtz. Let me give you a tip, and in all friendliness, if you want to retain your job here, attend to it and to nothing else.

Chris

What do you mean by that?

John

You talk too much. You're too much among the men, sowing the seeds of discontent and insubordination.

Chris

You can't gag me. I'm not a slave. I don't owe my place here to you, but to my abilities, which professor Dabney recognizes. (Works himself into passion) If I had my strength and was not a cripple, you big blustering bully, you wouldn't dare attempt to brow-beat me! (Sheriff Haywood enters L U E)

Beg

That's right Chris, give him blazes. If he lays a finger on you, He'll have to deal with me.

Nelly

(Entering from office) Will you come to the phone, Jack? It must be urgent, the way they are calling you.

John

Business before pleasure! I'll attend to the company's affairs first, then Begley I'll accommodate you with any sort of a game you want to play. (exit into office, passing Nelly in before him)

Sheriff H.

What's going on here, sounds like fighting talk?

Beg

I am only interfering to protect my friend here. You can see for yourself Sheriff Haywood, he's not able to defend himself.

Sheriff

What? What was he misusin this poor boy.

Beg

He threatened to, the coward, but he shan't do it, while I'm around.

Sheriff

By thunder! He shan't neither, when I'm around, I don't like the bread of those fellers as meddle with the unfortunate.

Beg

(Chris annoyed at being patronized limps off R U E) His position of power here in the mine has swelled his head, so that there's no living with him. We knew him in the East, he ammounted to nothing there. He's a bad case all around. Sheriff he owes me borrowed money to-day. He'd never have got through college if I hadn't helped him with his studies. Why you can judge what sort of man he is, he's trying to marry old Dabney's daughter, and--

Sheriff

Well, you can't blame him for that, I'd like to marry her myself

Beg

Well, you wouldn't insult her and do her the foul wrong, he's doing her.

Sheriff

How is that?

Beg

That new stenographer he has in there-(Pointing to office)

Sherriff

Yes, she's a peach.

Beg

She was his mistress in the east.

Sheriff

What?

Beg

I'm telling you facts. Half the people in New Haven know it. That poor cripple there. (pointing right) It's broken his heart he wanted to marry the girl honorably. Oh I tell you, Sheriff, there's goingto be a lively time here in your baliwick, when things all come out. I won't be here to see it, I've just resigned. I'm going away.

Sheriff

Well it strikes me that typewritin' gal in there is not the kind to stand by and see some one else take away the man, she cares for.

Beg

Oh, that fellow will get rid of her some way or other, why he's none too scrupulous to push her over into the canyon some dark night.

Sheriff

Go slow! Go slow! Pard- Do you know you're suggesting murder?

Beg

I wouldn't put even that beyond him.

Sheriff

Sufferin' mackeral, you don't mean it.

Beg

But I do. Hello whom have we here? (Pointing off L U E)

Sheriff

(Strolling up) Them? Oh them is the 2show troupe" who's going to "cut up didys" at the Opry to-night, looks like a bum show all right. If I'm judge it's on its last legs. I wonder if that spring chicken is the "Salomy" dancer they advertise.

Beg

(starts) (aside) By George! It's Frost! If he sees me, he'll try to touch-Excuse me, Sheriff, I want to talk to my friend a minute. (exits R U E)(Pause) (Frost and Miss Hoggs enter wearily L U E They are carrying suit cases, and a roll of scenery between them)

Frost

""Thus far into the bowels of the land have we marched on without indepdiment"

Miss Hogg

Cut that out, and ask that ugly man where the hotel is.

Frost

(Approaches Sheriff R) My dear sir:

Sheriff

What.

Frost

My dear si.

Sheriff

I'm not your dear sir: I'm the sheriff.

Frost

The what?

Sheriff

The sheriff.

Frost

I never meet sheriffs on coming to town, but I never fail to meet them when I leave. We will assume that you are not the sheriff at present.

Sheriff

We won't assume no such thing, I am the sheriff.

Frost

A truce to your persiflage.

Sheriff

Eh. What's that?

Frost

Will you kindly direct us to the worst hotel you have in this rotten burgh?

Sheriff

The worst hotel? The worst hotel here is the best hotel and don't you forget it.

Frost

Then I suppose the best is the worse.

Sheriff

There's only one hotel here.

Frost

Oh I see, then it couldn't be worse.

Sheriff

My wife keeps that. It's the occidental.

Frost

The Accidental, eh?

Sheriff

Occidental, I said.

Frost

Same thing. Is it near the Theatre?

Sheriff

You mean the "Opery"? It's the same building, My brother runs the "Opery"

Frost

Your brother runs the show shop, and your wife keeps the hotel. Where is it?

Sheriff

(Pointing R) Up the mountains about a mile. You can't miss it, You stop just before you come to the grave-yard. You'd better give me your baggage checks. My son hauls the baggage.

Frost

Eh! Your wife keeps the hotel, your brother runs the grave-yard I mean the theatre.

Sheriff

Opery! Opery!

Frost

Your son hauls the baggage, anymore of your family busy hare?

Sheriff

Oh yep! My father-in-law is ticket agant in the "deepo".

Frost

(Goes to Miss Hogg) Evangeline, have you heard, this is our finish we haven't a chance. I beg your pardon Sheriff, what is your name?

Sheriff

Haywood!

Frost

Well, then Hayweed, are you an Eagle?

Sheriff

No, I ain't.

Frost

The last hope is gone.

Sheriff

And there ain't no Eagles here. This is a prohibition district. If you want a drink you'll have to go to Wardner.

Frost

We have just escaped from Wardner.

Sheriff

You orther stayed there This town ainôt no good for "show troupes, when we uns want to go to a show, we go to Wardner.

Frost

Come Evangeline! (They gather up traps.)

Sheriff

Where be you going, to the hotel?

Frost

I think we'll keep right on to the grave-yard, you said it was next door.

Sheriff

You'd better be keerful about that grave-yard. We're particular about it. Remember we don't allow no"promiscuous dying" in this town. (Re-enter John and Nelly from office)

John

The strike is on. See! (Points to ore car at back) See! They have even left the ore-car midway across the Canyon. Well, nothing can be done to-night. I will attend the meeting of the man, and ask permission to address them. You go home dear and--

Nelly

(Interruptin) (Pointing to Miss Hogg and Frosy) Whom have we here? Old friends. Well; Well - Well!

John

Eh! Miss Hogg! (Advances to her shaking hands)

Nelly

And Mr/Frost.

Frost

(Rushes to her) Aha! "It is my love that calls upon my name. How silver sweet sound lover's tongues at night. Like softest music to attending ears" Romeo! balcony scene.

John

Mr. Frost! What are you doing here?

Frost

Don't you read the papers? We are knocking them cold in the one-night stands. We are a riot everywhere.

John

Then you are meeting with success.

Frost

More or less.

Miss Hogg

Generally less, I wish I could get a situation as plain cook somewhere, this play acting ain't what it's cracked up to be. Do you know-(Grabs Nelly, whispers in her ear. Nelly evinces surprise. Frost tries to butt in, they ignore him. Pauline appears at door. Frost shakes hands effusively with her. Nelly and Miss Hogg exit into office. Frost and Pauline follow)

Sheriff

(Touches John on shoulder) I've got something to say to you.

John

What is it?

Sheriff

I understand that you have been making cracks at that lame boy Chris. Take my tip and drop it.

John

What do you mean by "Cracks"?

Sheriff

Why threatening him with physical violence.

John

You have been misinformed Sheriff. I'm not built that way. I wouldn't think of laying a finger on him.

Sheriff

Well, don't. That's all. Our boys here wouldn't stand for nothin' of that sort. They don't like you very well anyway, they think you and old Dabney put on too many airs. Him, goin', and buildin' a swell house like he has, and a rollin' in luxury, his brother when he was here was content to stop at the hotel, my wife keeps.

John

Yes I know, and he died of liver trouble. I presume Mr. Dabney has a right to spend his money as he chooses, and if it pleased him to build a comfortable home for himself and daughter, that is his affair and the business of nobody else.

Sheriff

Well-

John

He's making his home here, and devoting all his energies to building the country and the state. Now in regard to myself, I want to treat every one fairly and I shall demand fair treatment in return. The dislike of the boys as you put it, I don't regard any more than a tinker's damn. I shall do my duty as I see it. You have given me a tip. I'll give you one. I don't hit cripples In fact I don't like to hit anybody, but if it becomes necessary I'll pick out some fellow just above your size, who has the use of all his limbs and who by his insolence and bullying impertinence leads me to think he's looking for trouble, and I'll land on him for all I'm worth. You know my hand, Sheriff, you can lead to suit yourself. (exit L U E)

Sheriff

(Meditating) Who is it that's just about my size? I wonder if he means me? That young feller will bear watching. Anyways, what Begley told me about him and that typewriter of his'n ought to be investigated: Them morals may do east. They're too much for this pure air of Idaho. I'll put old Dabney wise, that there feller is a scandal and menace to our community. (exit R U E) (Re-enter from office Nelly, Miss Hogg, Frost and Pauline)

Nelly

Miss Hogg, if you want to take the position and act as our housekeeper you will be more than welcome.

Miss Hogg

I'll be your housekeeper all right, but leave out that word "act" I hate "acting" and everything connected with it.

Frost

(To Pauline) She never could "act" in a million years Evengeline, am I to understand that you have "trun me down.

Miss Hogg

I renounce the devil and all his works, and that includes your play.

Frost

It was a "hell of a play" that's a fact, but it could have been played better Miss Nelly.

Nelly

Mr. Frost!

Frost

Do you know youa re disrupting my organization, this woman----

Miss Hogg

Who's a woman?

Frost

Is under contract to me. I could sue you under the unfair trading decision, but I won't.
Farewell Evangeline, farewell-
"Away to pots and kettles and your kitchen stove-
While Frost soars upward Phoenix like to Jove!
(to Pauline) Ring me up an aeroplane, will you?

Nelly

I'm sorry, Mr Frost if I am doing you an injury.

Frost

Othello's occupation gone.

Nelly

From what I hear, you have had a bad season.

Frost

The worst but nine I have ever had.

Nelly

Possibly you might be able to turn your abilities to something here.

Pauline

Why yes.

Frost

What could I do here?

Pauline

Well, there's work in the mines, you are a husky invidual.

Frost

What? (Roars) What? Turn my talents to base mechanical uses. Wield the plebian pick axe.

Pauline

If you had any capital, you might embark in trade. There's a small grocery to let near the station.

Frost

Grocery store! Oh! Oh! Coriolanus selling oleomargarine! Perish the thought.

Miss Hogg

Well, Nelly Dabney! Let's get on, we're wastin' time with him. It's getting late too, the sun is a settin'. (Picks up suit case, Nelly and she exit R)

Frost

Wastin' Gettin'. Settin'. doin'. Pauline! our pathway across the continent this season might be tracked by the "gs" that woman has dropped in every town we have appeared.

Pauline

What are you going to do, now you've lost her?

Frost

Give some ambitious, talented, and beautiful girl a chance. Ahem! Are you saitsfied in your present environment?

Pauline

Quite-

Frost

You wouldn't like to.

Pauline

No-

Frost

I would promise you, more salary, than I promised her.

Pauline

As I told you once before, Frosty, nothing doing. It's getting late. I'm going to lick up.

Frost

Do you look up the office.

Pauline

Of course, why-(Locking the door)

Frost

I was just thinking of my baggage and scenery. I don't want the risk of having it attached, owing to Evangeline's unwarranted defection. I can't show to-night/I wonder where I could hide my stuff Ah behind this fence. (Drops roll of scenery and bag behind set piece L upper C) Bless me! That's extraordinary!

Pauline

What's that? (Turns to him)

Frost

All I possess on earth has disappeared. I dropped them behind this fence, there's a hole there.

Pauline

I should say there was. They started a shaft there, and abandoned it. That fence is there to prevent people falling in. It's only about sixteen feet deep.

Frost

Only? How am I to get my stuff?

Pauline

Wait till morning. It's getting late now.

Frost

Don't be so flippant! The bag of mine contains a priveless treasure.

Pauline

What?

Frost

The manuscript of my nw play. All the managers of the country are crazy to get hold of it. When I stopped at a hotel in Chicago, I got "Oscar" to keep it in thesafe. Have you a ladder?

Pauline

All out of ladders.

Frost

Have you a rope?

Pauline

What do you want with a rope? To hang yourself?

Frost

Nay, nay Pauline! "Hang cats and blind puppies" Ah! What have we here? (Picks up coil of rope with hook by office) This will do.

Pauline

What are you going to do? (Business he fastens rope to fence-rail)

Frost

I am going to descend into the Stygian darkness.

Pauline

Oh, be careful, Mr Frost.

Frost

Fear not, Pauline, there is no danger. The rope is strong, why I have decended many times by means by knotted sheets from hotel rooms on the third floor. (Sings "We fly by night" "We fly by might"

Pauline

I suppose you can get down, but how will you get up?

Frost

Pauline, you can't keep a good man. (Disappears behind fence)

Beg

(Outside) Now Chris, don't be a fool, but take my advice.

Chris

Talk low! Talk low! She may not have left the office yet. (Pauline draws back upperL)

Beg

(Enters R. Chris limps on after him. Beg. crosses to office door tries it)She's locked up and gone, I tell you Chris my way is the best. He'll be at the meeting Hall to-night, and will try to speak to the men. You keep close to him, I will take care of the lights, at a given signal they will go out. Sink your knife then to the hilt of his shoulder blades. Cold steel is surer than a bullet. No one will know who did the deed. You will pay him up for the Pauline business, and your own crippled condition and I will have a free field with Mary.

Pauline

(Coming down) Don't be too sure of that Arthur Begley? So you have fallen as low as that eh? Plotting murder? And you Chris you poor idiot. You are willing to serve this devil here and like an ungrateful dog sink your fangs into the hand of the mass, who showered you with benefits.

Chris

You've been listening eh?

Pauline

Yes, haven't you suffered enough through your madness, mis-happen wreck that you are, afflicted by the Avenging hand of fate.

Chris

I don't know what fiend brought you here.

Pauline

No fiend Chris! But the will of Heaven which in mercy would save you from a cowardly crime.

Beg

Come Chris, away, let's leave her. It's only her word against ours. She'can't do anything.

Pauline

Oh yes, she can. She can tell your dupe about you. She can tear off your mask and show you for what you are. Listen Chris, you blame Jack Hammond for me having jilted you.

Chris

Yes, damn him.

Pauline

He is an innocent man. If you would know the real tempter! Behold him there. The man who deceived me with a false marriage.

Beg

That's a lie!

Pauline

It's the truth. I carry the certificate here in my breast. It bears your name and mine, and the signature of the bogus priest, your confederate. Oh I kept the secret all this time, while my good name was besmirched by slander, but the moment has come when concealment must be thrown to the winds. If you value your safety, leave this place before the sun rises on another day, or I'll have you in jail for conspiring to murder. You coward, you sneak you lowest of mankind.

Beg

I've herd enough from you, no more or I'll send you to Hell to prepare a welcome for Jack Hammond. You-you she devil! (seizes her)

Chris

(Gets in between them) No you won't. You let her alone!

Beg

What, you dare to interfere.

Chris

I dare!

Beg

Again't me.

Chris

Yes, against you. She must have a chance to prove what she says, and if she proves it--

Beg

Well, what then?

Chris

What rhen? What then? Why the knife you have given me to use on Jack Hammond. This knife, (Flourishing it) I'll sink into your own heart.

Pauline

No, no, think no more of murder Chris! Do not add to the weight of sin already on your soul.

Chris

Then from your charges against this man, prove them I say, or I'll think you are trying to shield Jack Hammond.

Beg

That's what she's doing. She would sacrifice any oneto save her lover.

Pauline

Jack, my lover. Oh you lie, you lie most foully! I would have spared you. Now Arthur Beglgy, look to yourself. Here is the certificate, here is a bundle of letters written to me, with your own hand. (Flourishing packet) I will make our secret public, and you shall be shown to the world for what you really are.

Beg

Give me those letters! Give them I say! (Seizes her suddenly) (They struggle)

Pauline

No--No--Chris--Chris--(The letters fall to stage)

Chris

(Picking them up) I have them.

Beg.

Give them to me! (Throws Pauline down L. she falls half fainting)

Chris

No! I'll read them first! (Begley advances on him) Back! Back! I say, remember what I told you. (Puts letters in breast.)

Begley

I've had enough of this.(Rushes on Chris who menaces him with knife Begley grabs his arm, the knife falls)

Beg

You whelp, you'll threaten me, will you? Well, here's an end of your snarling! (Drags Chris up to back L C throws him over set piece

Pauline

(Reviving) You murderer! You murderer! (Unlocks door of office) but I will denounce you.

Beg

You'll never live to do it! (Advancing on her)

Pauline

What would you do?

Beg

Silence you forever!

Pauline

(Screams) Help. Help! (Runs into office) (Begley pursues her into hut) (Noise of scuffle heard inside) (Pauling muffled screams, sound of blows then silence)(Begley re-appears, looks cautiously around then at his hands, which are blood stained picks up handkerchief which John has left on stump, looks at it, speaks.)

John

"J.H." His handkerchief! (Wipes blood from hands, drops handkerchief by door way, sees Chris's knife, on stage, picks it up, goes to set piece) (Apparently throws knife down shaft)

Frost

(outside) (Behind set piece in muffled voice) Ouch! Say cut that out. (Begley starts, looks fearfully around as if not exactly certain whether he is bewitched or not)

Sheriff

(Outside) The cries came from this way, sounded like a woman! (Begley gets behind rock piece at back) (Pause) (Sheriff Haywood Nelly and Miss Hogg re-enter R)

Nelly

The office door is open, where is Pauline? (At this point Pauline appears in door way, on her knees, her face is covered with blood her hair dishevelled, she tries staggeringly to raise to her feet, then pitches headlong to stage outside door down L)

Nelly

(Screams) Ah!

Sheriff

Those cries were hers.

Nelly

Who, who has done this? Pauline. Pauline. Poor Pauling, speak to me, speak. (Going down L raising Pauline's head) Get some water! Quick. Quick. (Miss Hogg exits into office)

Sheriff

There's no sign of robbery, Ah! What is that? (Picks up handkerchief) A blood stained handkerchief! Marked J. H.

Nelly

J.H. Why that is Jack.

Sheriff

Is it? Well it makes things look pretty bad for him. For Jack Hammond is the only one who had an interest in getting this poor gal out of the way.

Nelly

What are you saying?

Sheriff

Only what I can back up, Miss-Mr Begley warned me this evening that Jack Hammond would murder this gal, but what he'd rid himself of her. They were sweethearts in the East and now he wants to marry you.

Nelly

Then Arthur Begley slandered this girl and lied about his friend. Bring them fact to face, and John Hammond will answer the falsehood and punish him as he deserves. (Miss Hogg brings water, she and Nelly bathe Pauline's face.)

Nelly

The cruel - cruel wretch. Use the phone, Sheriff Haywood! Don't stand gaping there like a fool, get a physician quick!

Sheriff

My business is to arrest the criminal.

John

(Enter L U E) What's the matter here?

Sheriff

(With leveled pistol) Th w up your hands! You're under arrest.

John

What is the charge?

Sheriff

Muder. Your victim liees there.

John

Ah Pauline. Who has committee this awful crime?

Sheriff

You can best answer that.

Begley

(Coming down R) What's you prophesied would, He's murdered the gal.

Nelly

Not so fast Sheriff, Pauline is still alive. She may revive and tell who the real criminal is.

Frost

(Appears over set-piece) And if she does not, there's some one down in the shaft, who will.

Omns

Who?

Frost

Christ Kurtz, the lame boy, the same coward who tried to murder Pauline, threw Chris down the shaft, he may die down thre. Who'll help me to draw him up.

John

I will.

Sheriff

You stand where you are, you're under arrest.

John

Sheriff Haywood! After we get that boy out of the pit, I'll yield myself your prisoner, and if you don't agree to that--

Sheriff

Which I don'.

John

Thn you can go to Hell! (Turns up to Frost, they commence to haul on rope) (Sheriff H. levels pistol, Nelly rushes with a scream clings to his R. - hand with with of hers, she kneels)

C U R T A I N.

Positions at end.

Frost. John.

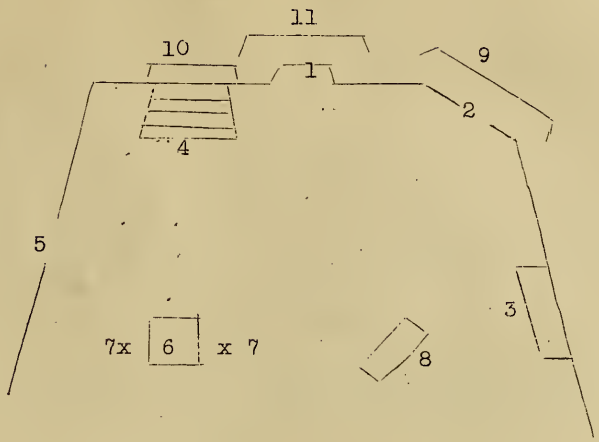
Sheriff Miss Hogg

Beg. Nelly. Pauline.

N.B. From John's entrance everything should go very rapidly.

Act 4th.

SCENE:--The Dabney Mansion. A handsome interior.



EXPLANATION

1- Large bay window.

2- Door.

3- Fireplace with mantel and mirror. (4) Stairway and platform running off R. Arch at head of stairway.

5- Door.

6- Table.

7- Chairs.

8- Large couch.

9- Interior backing.
10- Interior backing.

11-Exterior backing.

Handsome chandelier, bric-a-brac, jardiniers etc. Decorative furniture. Curtains to windows, rugs etc. The stairway should have handsome balustrades to break away. Window has pain of glass to break.

---oooOOOOOOOooo---

ACT FOUR

SCENE:--The Dabney Mansion. A handsome Interior.

At rise:--Frost id discovered seated R. at table T. on which is the remains of a repast. There are couple of empty beer bottles on the table. Sheriff Haywood is C. looking at Frost who is eating heartily. Miss Hogg is down R.

Sheriff H.

Say, you've got a good appetite, haven't you?

Frost

Oh yes, I ear heartily, when I have anything to eat, and drink deeply, when I have anything to drink. Evangeline, I would like some more beer.

Miss Hogg

You've had two bottles now, that's enough.

Frost

Two bottles! What's two bottles to a Milwaukee thirst? (Nelly enters from arch above at back coming down stairs.) Miss Nelly ---

Nelly

Mr. Frost.

Frost

Am I to be stinted in my malt! Your "factotum" here - (Pointing to Miss Hogg.)

Miss Hogg

What's that you called me?

Frost

(Ignoring her.) Is endeavoring to limit your hospitality. I asked for "more beer" and she cheerlishly denies me --

Nelly

Oh, please Miss Hoggs, let Mr. Frost have all the beer he wants.

Frost

Thank you! Dost hear, Evageline?

Miss Hogg

I dost.

Frost

Then dust away and get me four bottles this time.

Miss Hogg

Four! Well, I'll go, but --

Frost

"Stand not upon the order of going, but go at once." Macbeth, banquet scene. And how are the patients, Miss Nelly?

Nelly

Chris is delirious. Pauline is mending fast.

Sheriff H.

Then I suppose I can question her.

Nelly

The doctor forbids her being disturbed.

Sheriff H.

But I am the law, and the law ain't to be interfered with. We want to get at the facts. The whole community is stirred up over this outrage. It'smighty funny that you were in thaft and didn't hear nothing.

Frost

Dogberry, that shaft was sisteen feet deep. I was at the hottom. You would understand that I could hear anything of what was going on some distance from it's mouth, if you had the brains of a hen.

Sheriff H.
You stop that insultin' talk or I'll run you in.
Nelly
Gentlemen, gentlemen, Sheriff, I beg of you - -
Sheriff H.
You tell me one thing. Why did you go down to the shaft anyway?
Frost
To redeem from thence a priceless treasure. (Lifts up suitcase which is beside him.)
Sheriff H.
What is in that bag? I'll open it and see. (Takes suit case away from Forst who vainly tries to prevent him.)
Frost
Forehear! Forehear! Do not with sacrilegious touch profane the sanctuary.
Sheriff H.
Rats! (Opens the bag.) (Re-enter Miss Hogg with the four bottles of beer.) She lays them on table and exits L.U.E.)
Sheriff H.
What's this? (Holds up grease paint.)
Frost
Item-one stick of grease paint, No. 5.
Sheriff H.
(Holds up collar and loud vest.) What's that?
Frost
My slasher and crasher waistcoat.
Sheriff H.
(Holds up pair of old tights.) Humph! These are a pair of---
Frost
Those are my Romeo tights.
Sheriff H.
The moths have got into them.
Frost
Handle them with reverence. They belonged to Shakespeare!
Sheriff
Who is he?
Frost
Alas, he's a dead one. That small box there is a box of "wrinkles." That other one contains "laughs." I'm making a collection of them. Ahem! I haven't had many of them lately.
Sheriff H.
Here's a hammer. (Holds up hammer.)
Frost
Yes, I carry that to knock all the other actors I know.
Sheriff
(Holds up large key.) What's this, the Key of --
Crost
The key of C. I mean the kye of the curtain. Use it to play jokes on Reuben, Sheriffs and other pudden headed yaps.
Sheriff
I know what this is. (Holds up book.) This is a bible.
Frost
Yes.
Sheriff
Oh yes. (Reads on fly leaf.) "Stolen from the Northern Pacific Railroad." What thing! It looks like a rool of sausage. (Holds up script L.)

Miss Hogg
That! The play he speaks of Sheriff - look out for it, it's pizen.

Sheriff
And it was for this trash, you went down the shaft?

Frost
(Bristling up.) Don't you call my play trash! Don't you dare!

Sheriff
(Knocks down Frost wth manuscript.) Shut up.

Nelly
Gentlemen, gentlemen!

Frost
(Getting up.) Why pluralize. There is only one gentleman present. This "anthropophagus" don't count.

Sheriff
Answer me. You went down the shaft to get this stuff?

Frost
Stuff? You're a stuff yourself.

Sheriff
You went down the shaft?

Frost
I did.

Sheriff
What did you do then?

Frost
I tied the rope to my belongings and started to climb up.

Sheriff
The rope?

Frost
Yes, the rope. R - O - P - E - rope!

Sheriff
I always spell it, R - O - P. I believe in the "phonographic spelling. The "e" is supercillious. Well, you started to climb up the R - O - P -

Frost
I had almost reached the top, when an object fell with crushing violence on my head.

Sheriff
What!

Frost
Chris, the lame boy. The shock jarred my hold on the R - O - P - e and we fell to the bottom together. That is I fell first. He fell on top of me. But he was insensible. I struck a match and found out who it was. I fastened the rope then to him, and started to ascend again, when another object struck me on the head.

Sheriff
What was it this time?

Frost
A knife. Here it is. (Produces knife.

Nelly
I knew that knife. It belongs to Arthur Begley.

Sheriff
(Takes knife) Humph! Now see here, it ain't no use your trying to connect Mr. Begley with this affair.

Nelly
I am not, Sheriff. When Pauline and Chris are able to speak they will fasten the guilt on the man who deserves it.

Sheriff

Well, if their evidence will clear Jack Hammond, theyd better hurry up and peak soon. I can't stand against public sentiment much longer.

Nelly

What do you mean by that?

Sheriff

Why the feelings all against him. Everybody is talking about lynch law being the best law. Them striking miners only need some loafer filled with Wardner "red-eye" to lead them, and they'll storm that old jail and take him out andhang him.

Nelly

And have you taken any steps for his protection?

Sheriff

Well, I'm in a peculiar position. I wouldn't like to fire on any of my constituents, but of course, if things do - come to - to - a -

Frost

Crisis!

Sheriff

Yes, that's it, a crisis. I'll do the best I kin.

Nlly

I thought as much . Your best isn't very good, and that is why ,y father has left his sick bed, and gone personally to Coloenl Haines. At this moment a detachmentpf troops is on the way from the Post.

Sheriff

For what?

Nelly

To see that that the law is respected. As you present it, it's nothing but a ghastly mockery. You knew the condition of affairs, and it was your duty to have seen that Mr. Hammond was conveyed to a palce of safety.

Sheriff

Nobody kin tell me my business and don't you try.

Frost

(Taps forehead.) Solid ivory. They will make Billiard balls of his dead some day. (Clanging of bell heard in distance. Shouts. Scattering shots. N:B. use carriage cushion and rattan effect.

Nelly

What is that?

Sheriff

The alarm bell of the jail. Your soldiers had better get here pretty quick, or they'll be too late. (Shouts. Bell and shots)

Miss Hogg

(Entering.) The mob areattacking the lock up. They say they're going to take Jack Hammond out and hang him.

Nellly

Quick Sheriff, to your post.

Sheriff

Why, what can I do? What can one man do against a hundred?

Frost

He can at least die like a man in defense of justice and the right. Sheriff, I think you are a coward.

Sheriff

What's that?

Frost

An infernal coward. If you're not, you'll follow me. (Picks up Sheriff's gun.)

Nelly

what are you going to do?

Frost

I'm going to the jail and emptythis gun of fair play, and Jack Hammon my friend. Come on, you Damned Hayseed Bluff, come on! (Exits L.U.E. Sheriff follows. Noise outside kept up.)

Nelly

God grant that the troops arrive in time. (Up at L.U.E. looking off. Pauline in white negigee appears at head of stairs R.U.E.)

Miss Hogg

Ah! Look there. (Paulice tries to descend stairs clinging to balustrade. Falls into arms of Nelly and Miss Hogg who rush to her.)

Nelly

Pauline! Pauline! You did wrong to leave your bed. (Noise outside of bell etc)

Pauline

That noise? What is it?

Miss Hogg

The mob. They accuse Jack Hammond of the attack on you. (They are over R.C.)

Pauline

Jack is innocent. Save - save Chris, he is at the bottom of the shaft. I - Oh - (Half faints away.)

Nelly

Who is the guilty one? Paulise - speak!

Paulines

Why - why - (Sees Begley who enters L.U.E. stands in doorway. Screams.) Ah! Take me way! Take me away! Collpasing.)

Nelly

Bear her to the couch within. (They support her off R. door. Bugle sounds and drum;shouts again.

Nelly

(Going off R.) The troops have come; The soldiers are here. Jack will be saved. (They exuent R.)

Nelly

(Outside) You mremain here with her Miss Hogg. I'll phone for the doctor. You receive him when he comes. I can stand this suspense no longer. I must learn about Jack (Enters R.)

Begley

Jack is dead, Nelly.

Nelly

Dead! (Staggers.)

Begley

He's just been lynched by the mob.

Nelly

My god, the soldiers --

Begley

They arrived too late. Oh, believe me, I sympathize wth you in your affliction and what help I can give you is freely yours.

Nelly

(Dazed.) Dad! Dead, lost to me. Well, well, I'll go to him. They cannot refuse to let me see him now. (Sobbing.)

Begley

Don't go yet. However the manner of his taking off, he deserved it.

Nelly

What?

Begley

He confessed his guilt, others can corroborate what I say. His friends who were there, would have saved him but for that.

Nelly

He died and I not there! He died without giving me a kiss of love. Oh mercy, mercy! (Falling on her knees sobbing.)

Begley

I own, I myself, who have always been like a brother to him, I was appalled at his crime.

Nelly

(Rising.) He committed no crime.

Begley

Now listen to me. he told us all. How he had quarreled last night with his victim, how he had been secretly married to her two years ago. She tired of her ambiguous position had demanded her rights before the world, and threatened if he refused, to ruin him with your father and you. Maddened by her words, he seized her by the throat and sought to strangle her to death. It was at this moment that Chris interfered. Hethrew the poor helpless cripple down the shaft and then returned to complete his work of death.

What ae

Nelly

What are you saying?

Begley

The truth. Nelly, come with me. This place ~~xx~~ can no longer afford security to your father or yourself. His action with the soldiers will never be forgiven. You will meet insults on all sides. Come witn me. Jack Hammond is dead. We will marry, and by a life of devtion and fenderness, I will make you forget this false lover, this would be assassion, this murderer of the mistress. He would have deceived you for 9 (Puts his arm around her.)

Nelly

(Breaking loose.) Wretch, you have lied to me. Slanderer of the dead - defamer of the living, leave the house. If Jack is dead, I'll cherish his memory, his truth against all the world.

Begley

His memory! What, do you weight my love against that, of this dog who confessed his guilt! Seizing her.)

Nelly

(Breaks away.) Let me go! Let me go. (Rushes up to door.) L.U.E. beats on the door.) It's locked.

Begley

Yes, I have the key. (Nelly runs to R. door.) That's locked also. You're shut in here with me. I tell you, you're mine, mine - and I'm going to have you. (He seizes her, she tries to run up stairs screaming. As she reaches the top he hears noise at door steps, listens, drawing pistol. The window is crashed and John enters through it throws himself on Begley's back disarming him of pistol, which falls to stage. He throws Begley over R.)

John

That makes things more even Arthur Begley. You've reached the limit. Now, I'll give you the licking I promised and I'm going to give it to you good. (Begley throws bottle from table at Jack who misses it. Crashes through chandelier. Jack punches Begley. They fightto couch together, falling over it. As they rise Begley goes again for bottles on table, fires them at Jack, who dodges and they go through mirror, over mantel. Jack retorts with jardinier, misses Begley. Begley runs up the stair-way,

Jack afer him, hits him across the head with bottle. He staggers back, but they slug each other on the stairs. Finally clinch going against balustrade on L. side which breaks with them. They fall to C. Jack overpowers Begley. Frost and Sheriff come through window. Miss Hogg batters down door R. appears with axe and Pauline. Chris enters at head of the stairs R.U.E.)

Chris

Sheriff, arrest Arthur Begley, I charge him with attempted murder.

Sheriff and others

Begley!

Pauline

Yes, he is the man.

C U R T A I N

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